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MAD CAVE
THE SLASHER'S APPRENTICE™

THE SLASHER'S APPRENTICE

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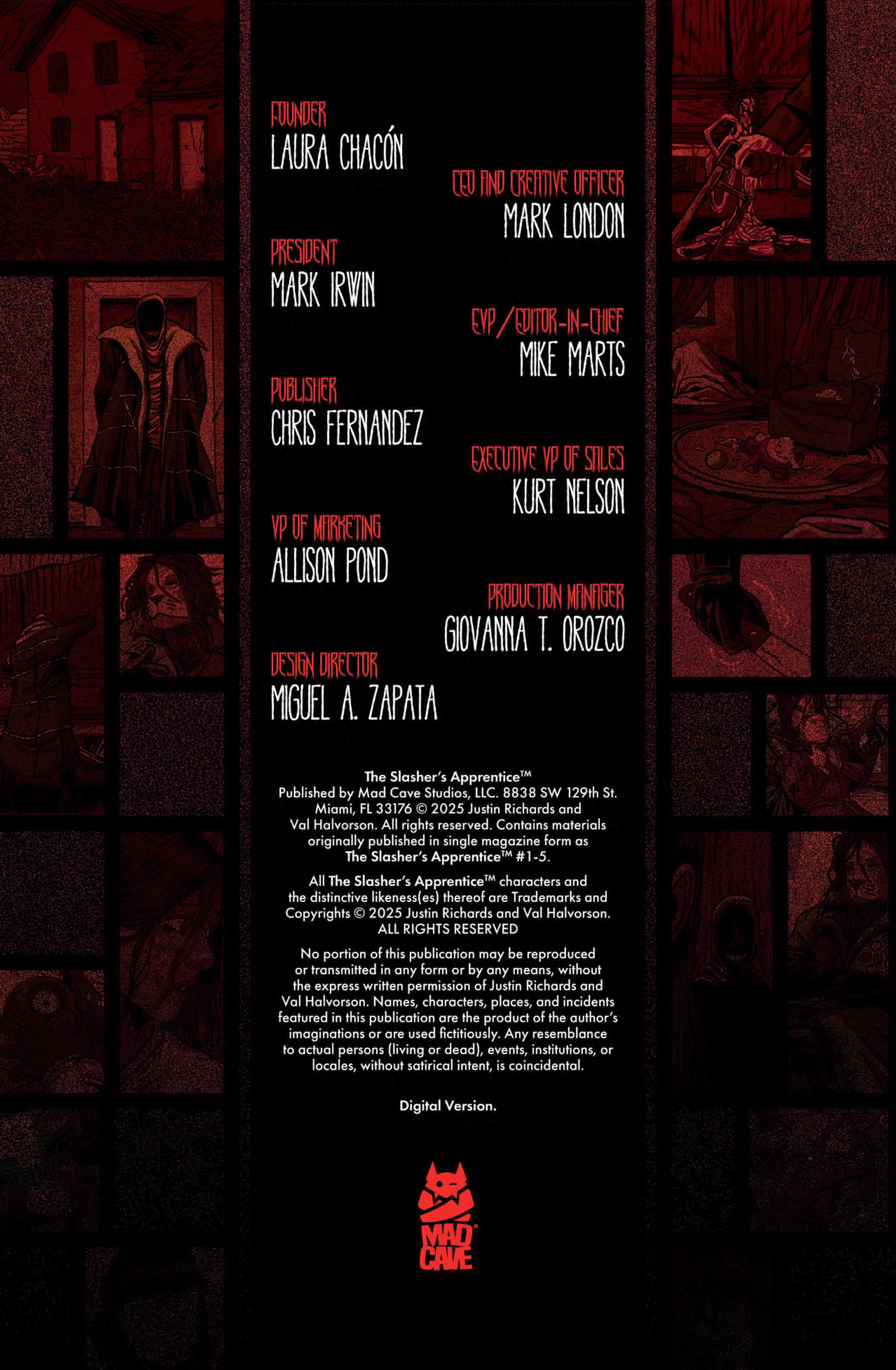

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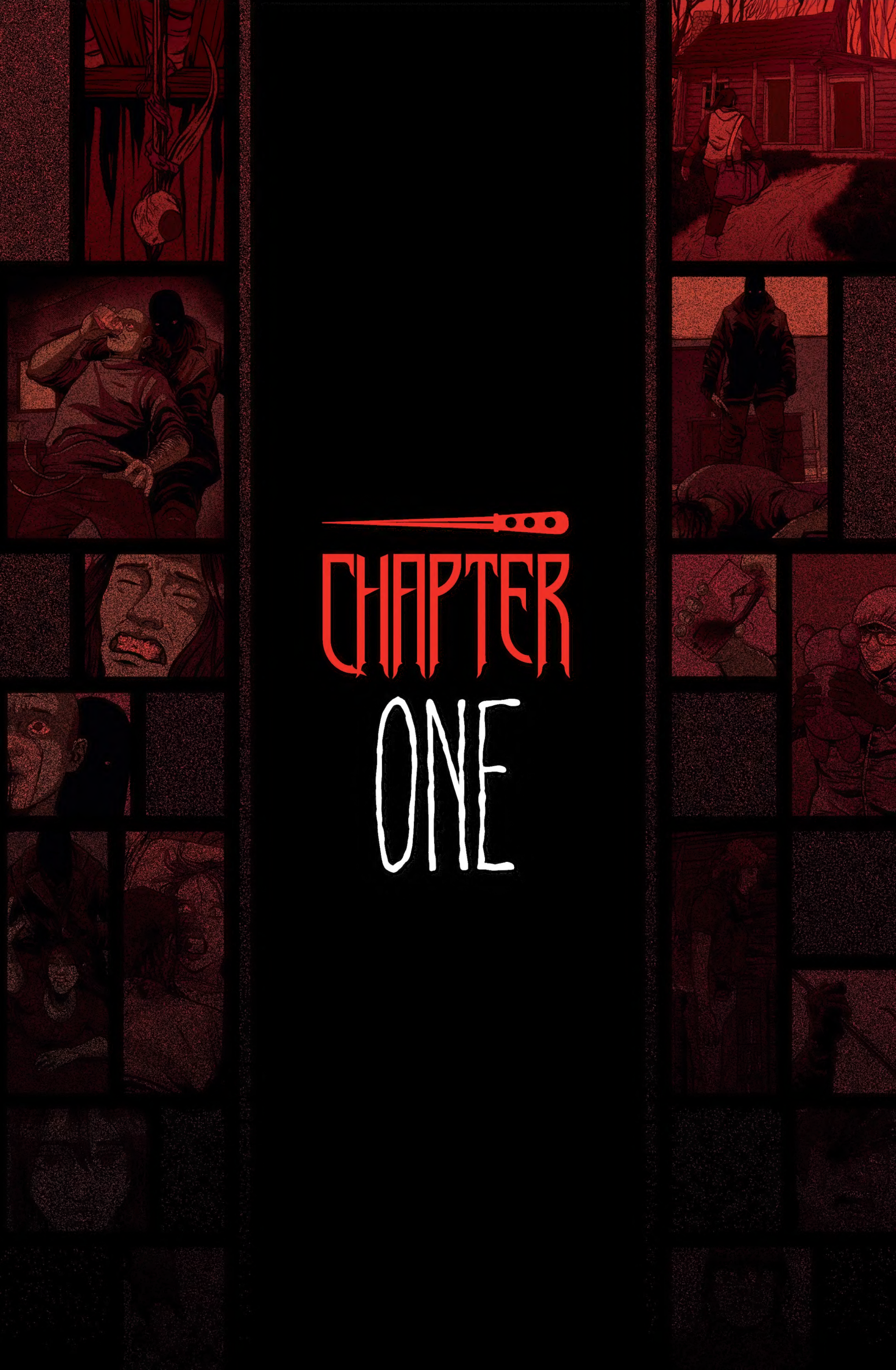

CHAPTER
ONE

tap tap
WELCOME TO THE KNIFE LIFE...
...WHERE WE CUT DEEP INTO THE INS AND OUTS OF THE MOST NOTORIOUS SLASHERS AND FIND OUT WHAT ABOUT THEM KEEPS PEOPLE HOOKED.
TO DO:

"TONIGHT, ON EPISODE EIGHT.

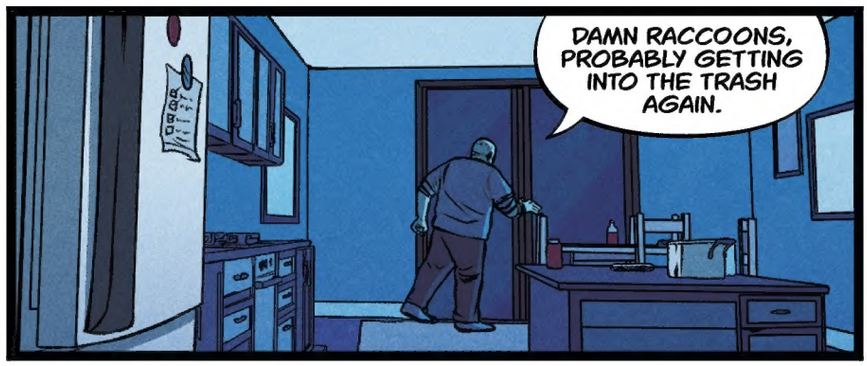
"I'VE BEEN CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN THE DEEP FATHOMS OF THE INTERNET AND HAVE COME ACROSS A CASE THAT I BELIEVE DESERVES A SPOTLIGHT.

"WE OPEN ON A COLD NIGHT IN SUBURBIA."

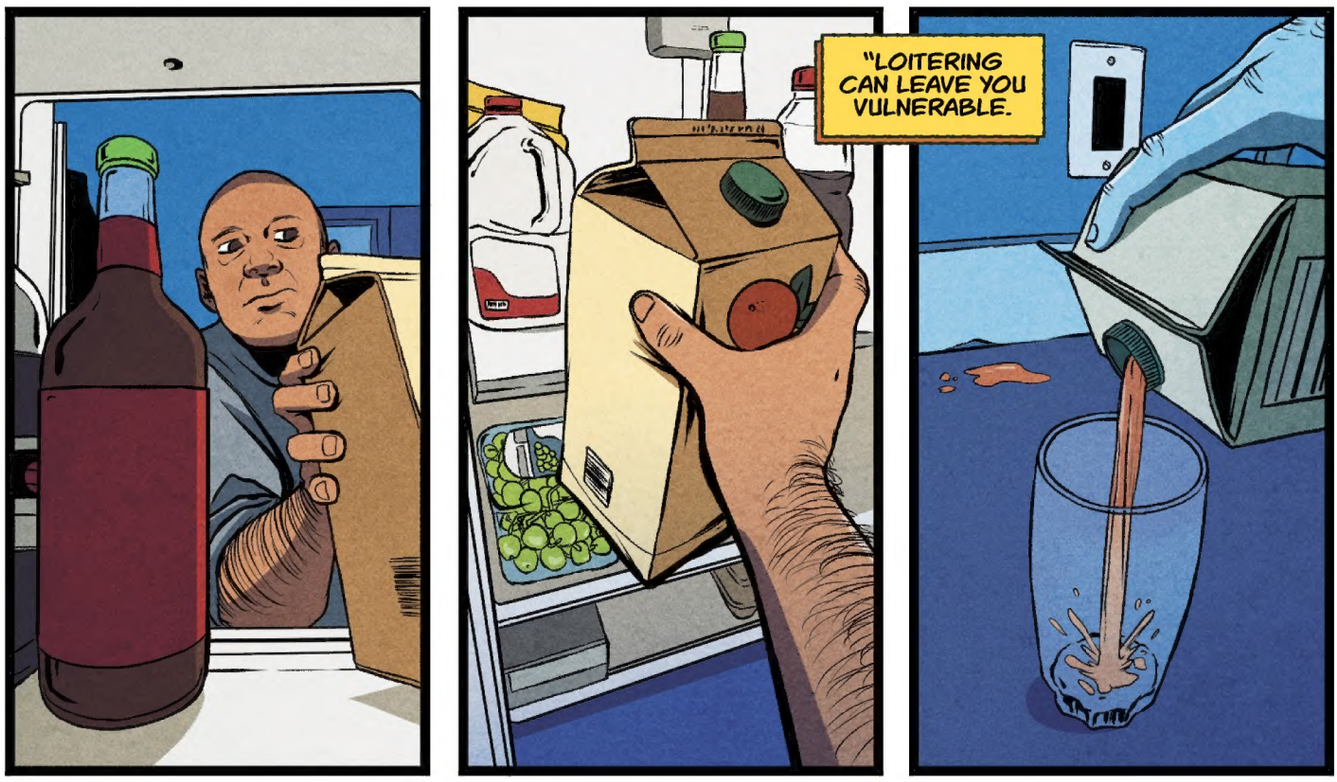
KASH

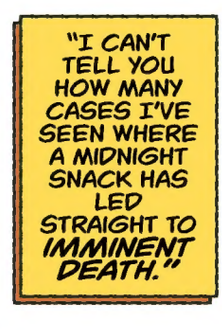
WHAT THE HELL? I CAN'T EVEN GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP ANYMORE.

"THE FIRST THING THAT STUCK OUT TO ME AS A RED FLAG WAS ONE OF THE VICTIMS GETTING UP TO INVESTIGATE A NOISE IN THE NIGHT.
"NEVER INVESTIGATE A NOISE ALONE."


DAMN RACCOONS, PROBABLY GETTING INTO THE TRASH AGAIN.

"AND ESPECIALLY DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN AFTER BARELY CHECKING ON SAID NOISE.


"LOITERING CAN LEAVE YOU VULNERABLE.


"I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW MANY CASES I'VE SEEN WHERE A MIDNIGHT SNACK HAS LED STRAIGHT TO IMMINENT DEATH."

"AND ONCE THAT FIRST MISTAKE IS MADE...
GURK

GAK

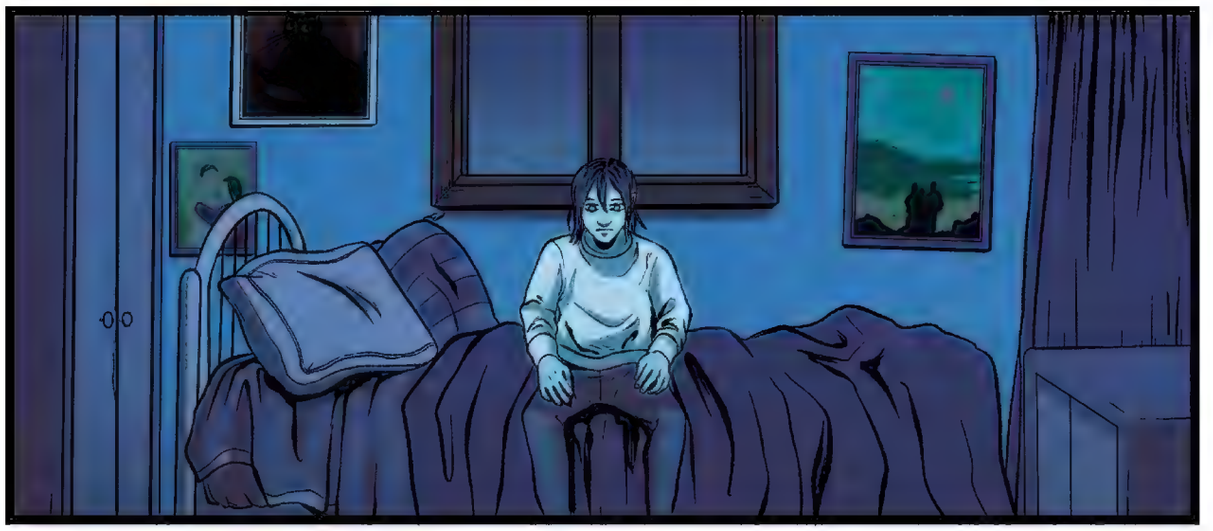
"...THE FLOODGATES ARE OPEN."

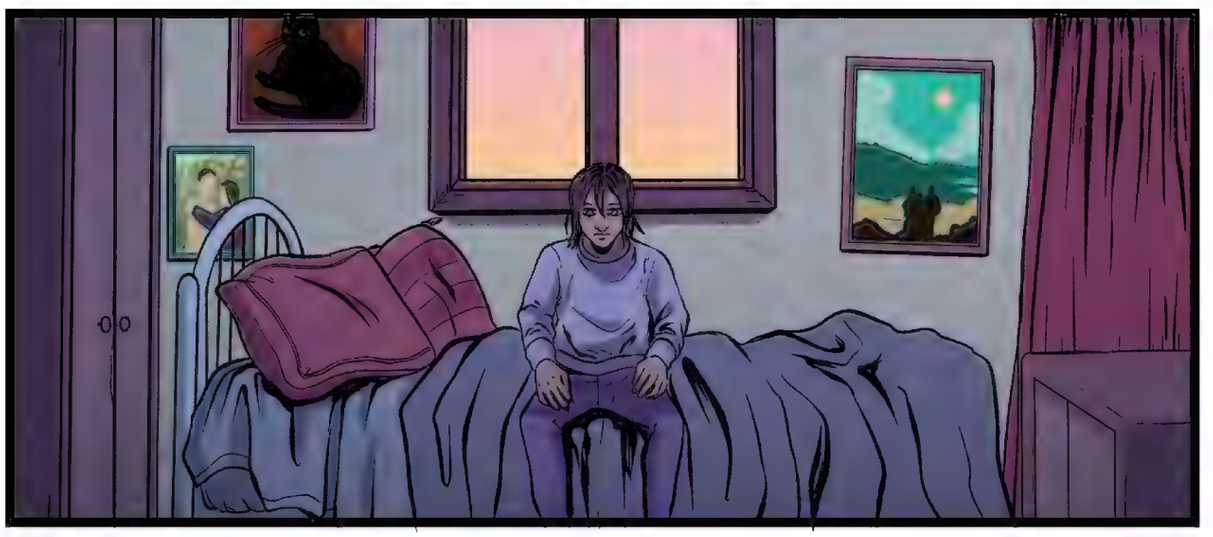
KEN? WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?
WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING OUT OF BED AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
KENNETH!
YOU'RE GONNA WAKE UP THE WHOLE HOUSE.

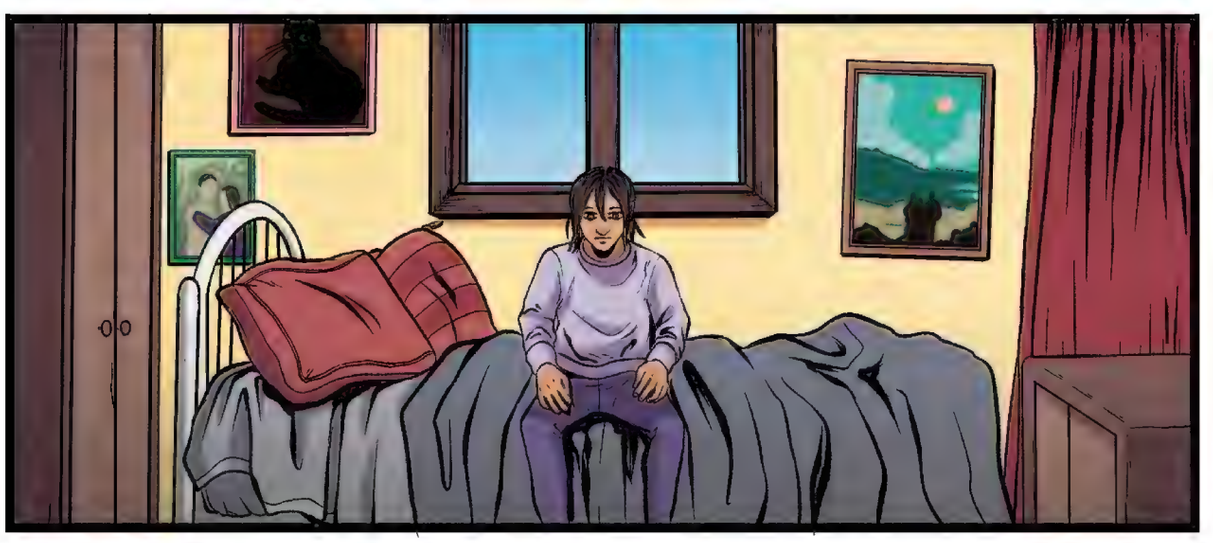
SLICE
AHHH!
THUD
:GASP:

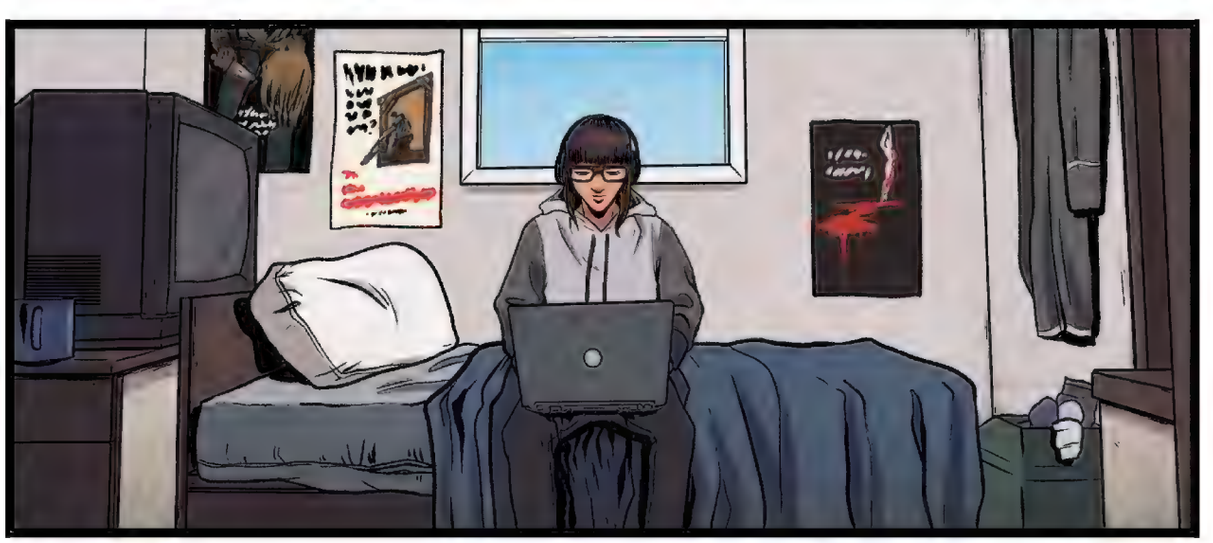
WHUD
"BUT ONE OF THE ABSOLUTE WORST THINGS YOU CAN DO...
"...IS FREEZE.
"VICTIMS AREN'T THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN MAKE MISTAKES."

"FOR INSTANCE, NOT DOUBLE CHECKING FOR ANY SURVIVORS.
"LEAVING ANY FORM OF TRAIL BEHIND IS ANOTHER CLASSIC FAUX PAS.
"A LITTLE BIT OF CLEANUP CAN GO A LONG WAY IN SUCH A MESSY BUSINESS."









THAT'S ALL FOR THIS EPISODE.
TUNE IN NEXT TIME FOR MORE STABS, SLASHES, AND BRAIN BASHES.

Controls
Start Recording
click
Studio Mode
Settings
Exit

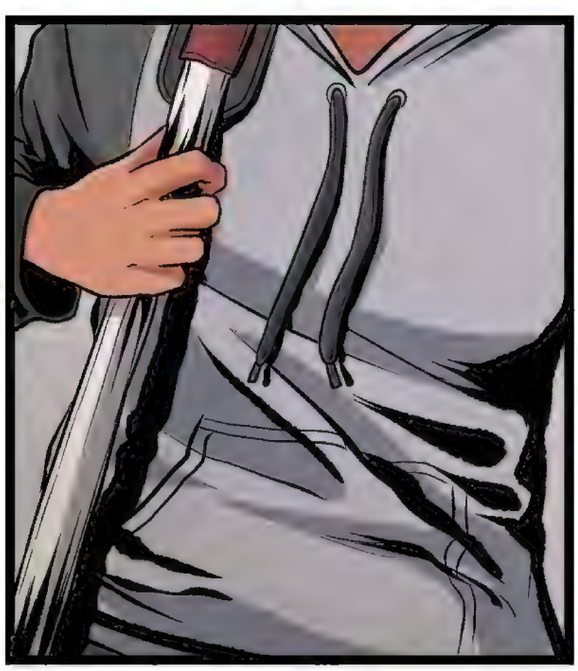
HSSSS

clk

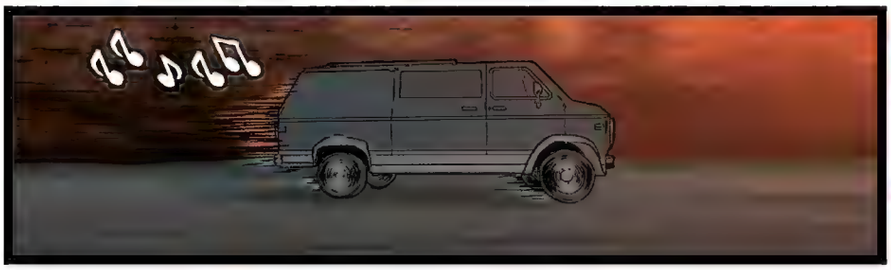
POP
NACHOOS

CHIP!
clik clak
clik clak

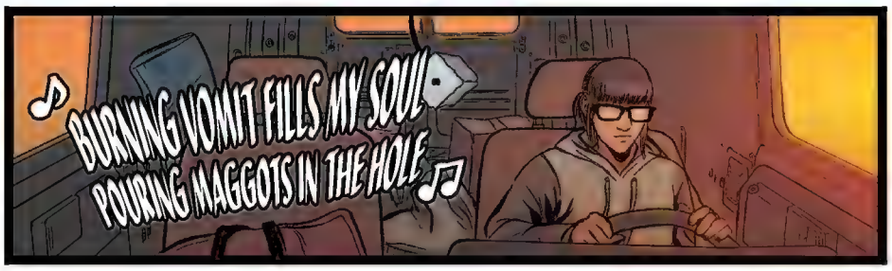
ZRRRRRRTTT



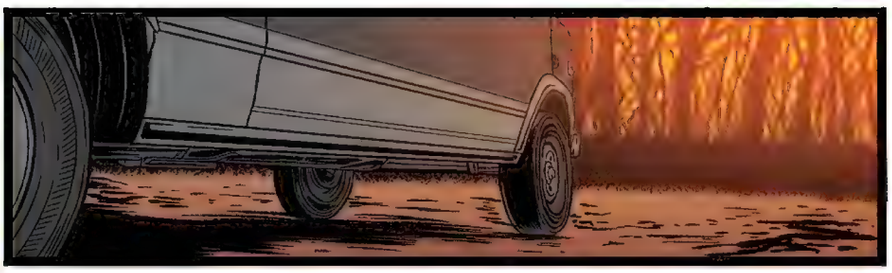
jingle



"TONIGHT, ON *KNIFE LIFE*, I'LL BE HIGHLIGHTING THE CAREER OF A LOCAL LEGEND.

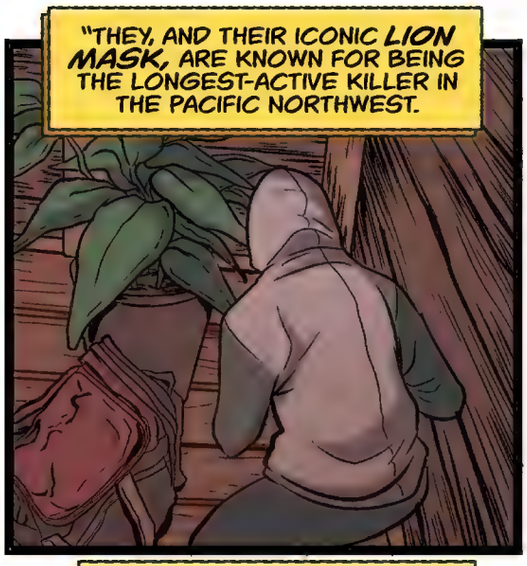


"KNOWN TO BE ACTIVE SINCE 1974, WITH NO LESS THAN 125 CONFIRMED KILLS, THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST NOTORIOUS KILLERS I'VE TALKED ABOUT ON THIS SHOW YET.



"THEY'VE BEEN KNOWN TO USE ANY WEAPON AVAILABLE TO THEM, FROM KITCHEN KNIVES TO HACKSAWS AND EVEN A BOWLING BALL.

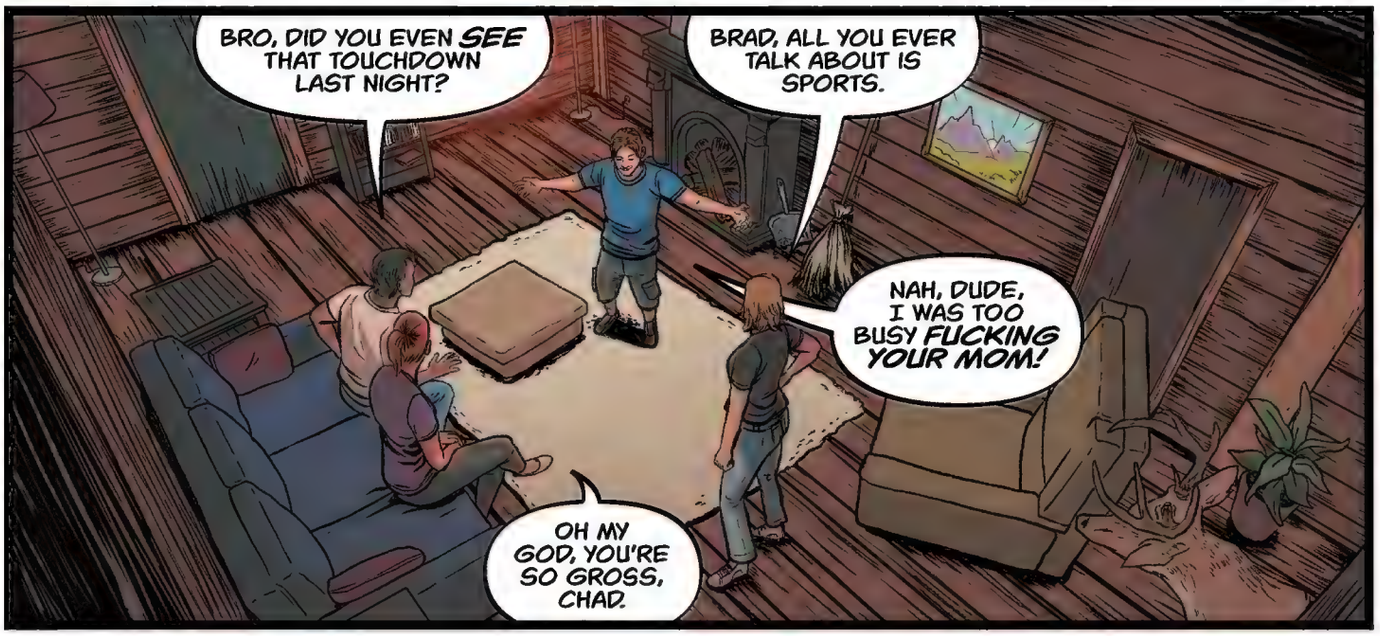
"I'M TALKING, OF COURSE, ABOUT NONE OTHER THAN *THE HOPTON VALLEY KILLER.*"


"THEY, AND THEIR ICONIC LION MASK, ARE KNOWN FOR BEING THE LONGEST-ACTIVE KILLER IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

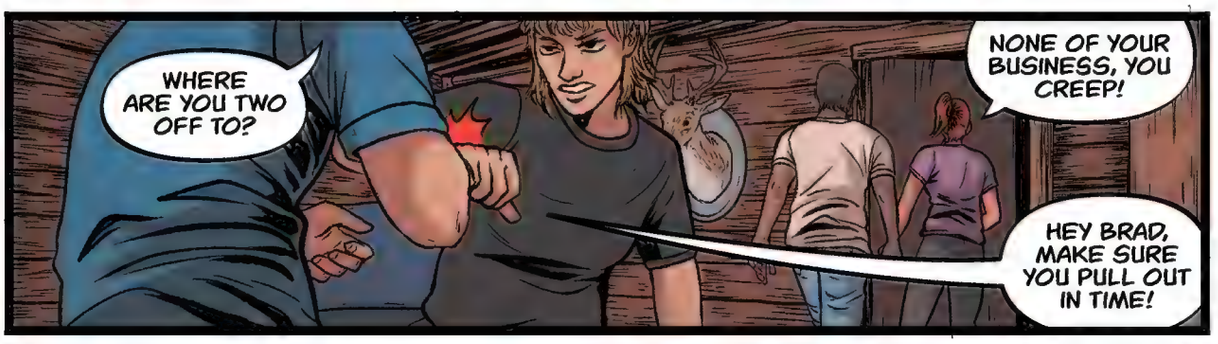
"THEY'RE NOT TALKED ABOUT MUCH THESE DAYS, AS THEY HAVE BECOME MORE OBSCURE OVER THE YEARS."

CHIP!

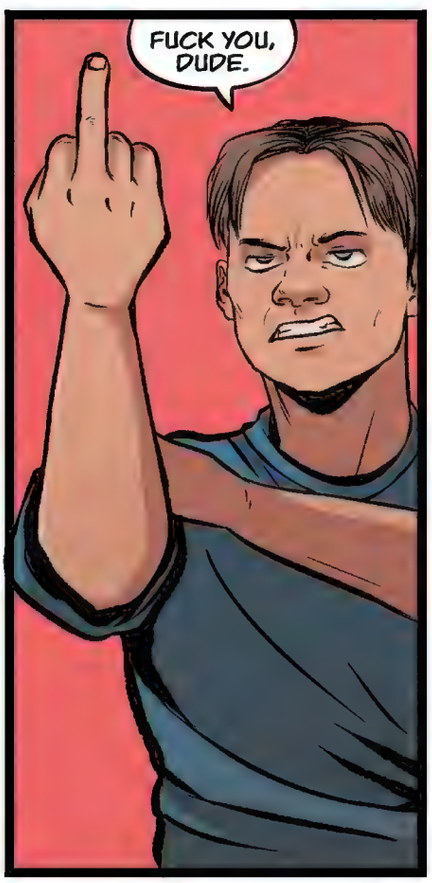
I HAVE MY OWN THEORIES AS TO WHY.


BRO, DID YOU EVEN SEE THAT TOUCHDOWN LAST NIGHT?
BRAD, ALL YOU EVER TALK ABOUT IS SPORTS.
NAH, DUDE, I WAS TOO BUSY FUCKING YOUR MOM!
OH MY GOD, YOU'RE SO GROSS, CHAD.

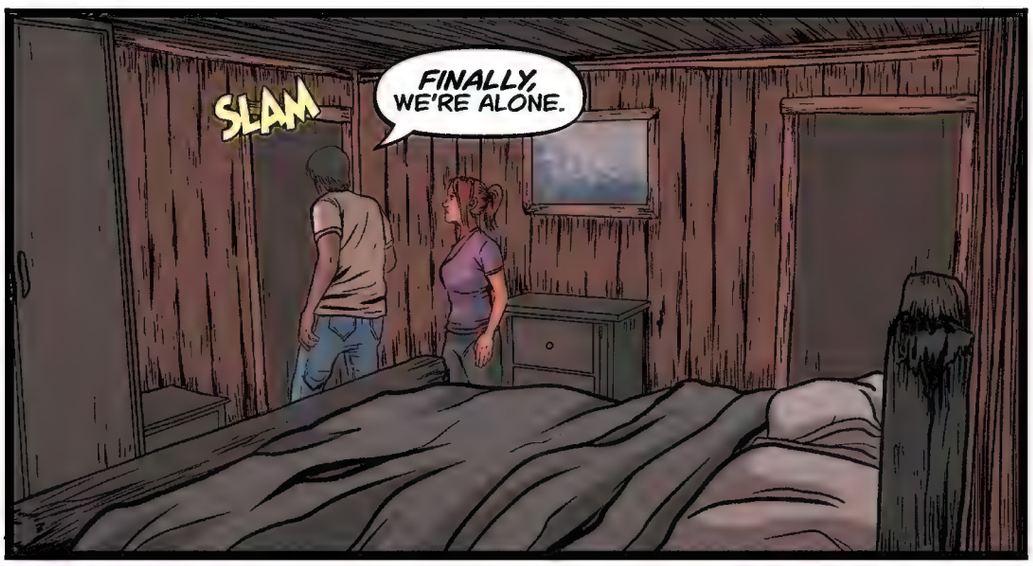
WHAT YEAR IS IT? 2005?

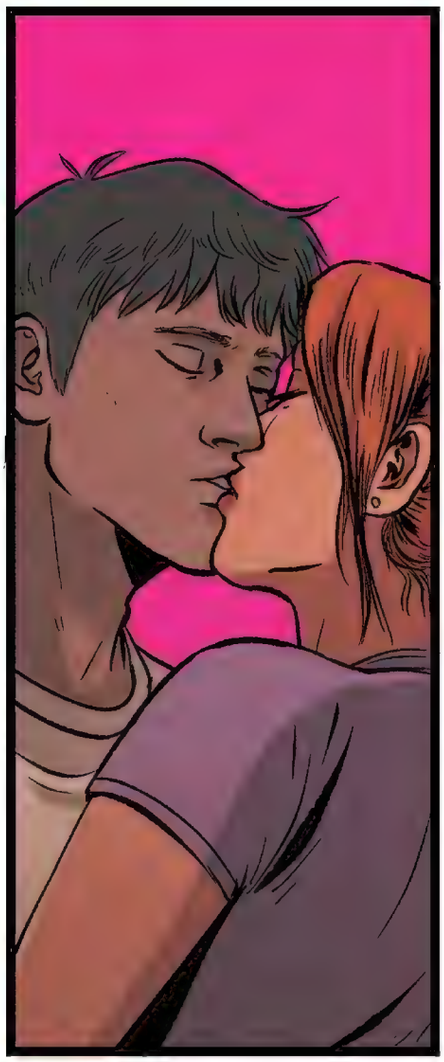

WHERE ARE YOU TWO OFF TO?
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, YOU CREEP!
HEY BRAD, MAKE SURE YOU PULL OUT IN TIME!

MAYBE YOU SHOULD WORRY ABOUT YOURSELF.
IT'S NOT MY FAULT YOU NEVER GOT LAID IN HIGH SCHOOL.


FUCK YOU, DUDE.

YOU BOTH NEED TO GROW UP.


SLAM
FINALLY, WE'RE ALONE.



I BROUGHT PROTECTION.

BRAD, I'M NOT THAT KIND OF GIRL.

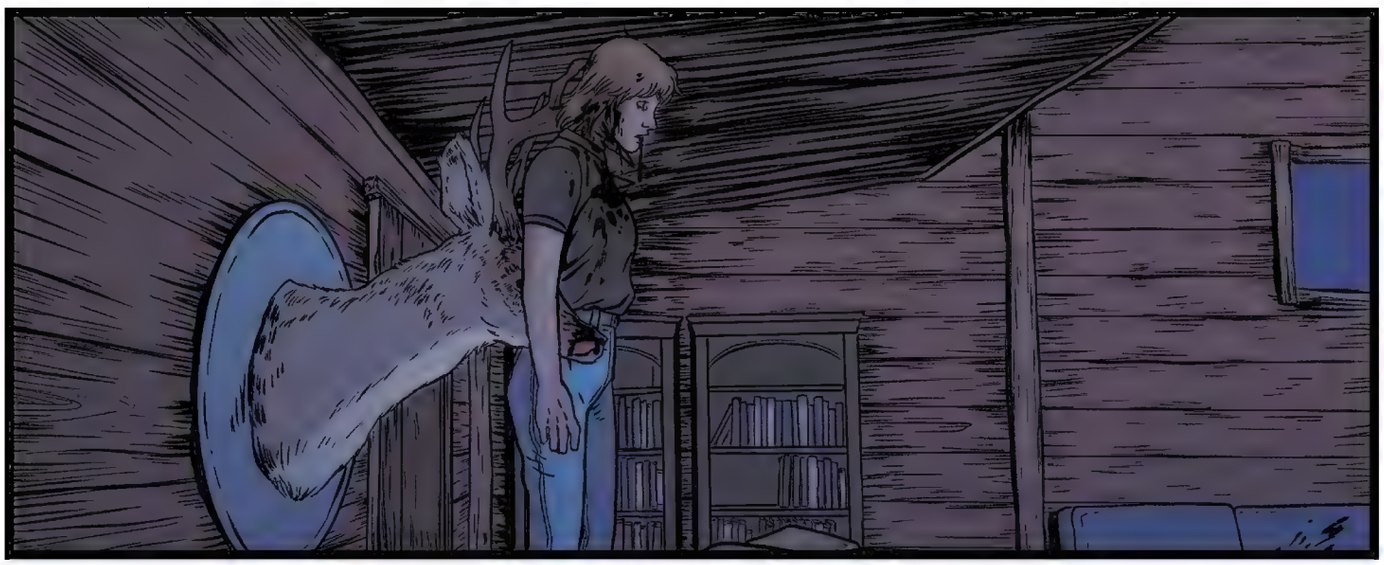
I ONLY DO HAND STUFF.

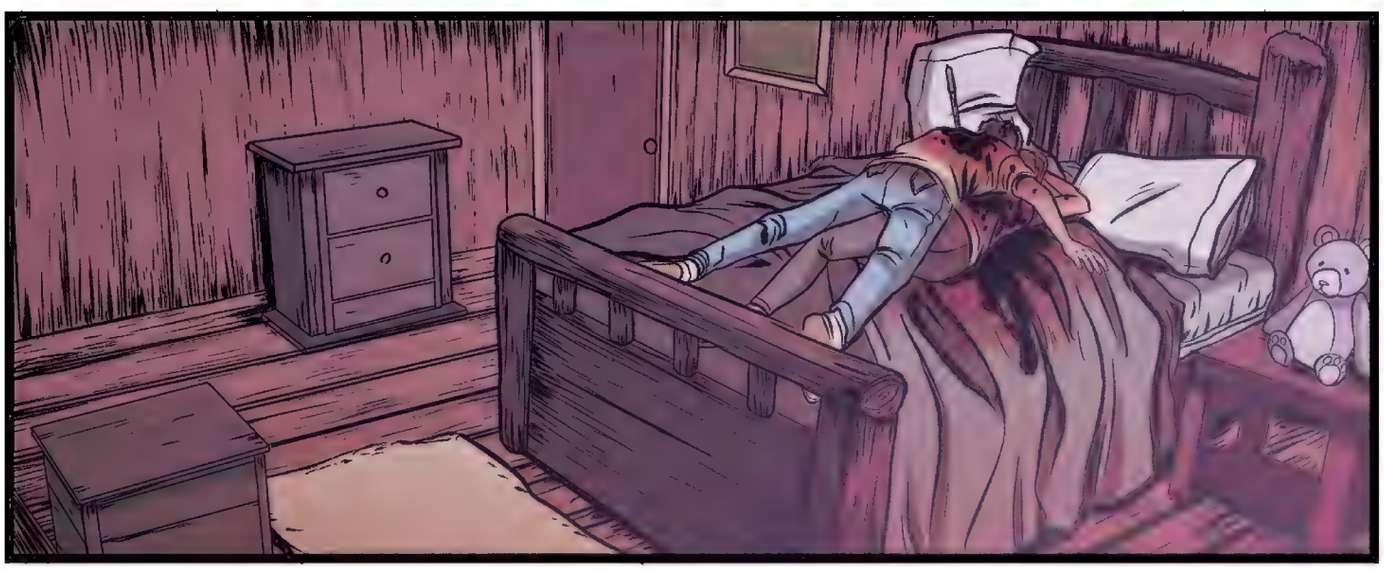
WHO THE HELL IS THAT?
WHA?

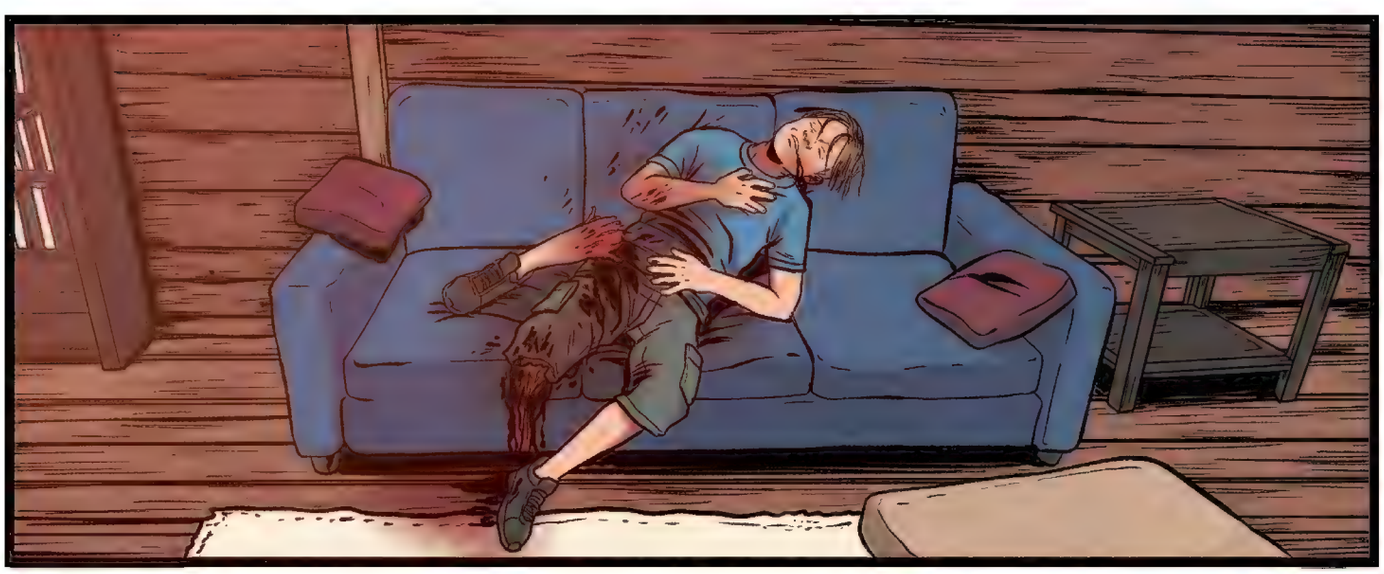
OH MY GOD!
AAAAAHHHHHHH!
AAAAAH! GET AWAY FROM US! BRAD?! BRAD!
UNNGH!
GET OFF, BRAD!
AAAAHHH!
"THEIR LEVEL OF BRUTALITY IS INFAMOUS."

TWO DOWN.
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE?
CRUNCH
AHHH!
RIIIIIP
OH MY GOD!
ARRRRRRRGH!
SHLUURP
NOOOO! PLEASE--

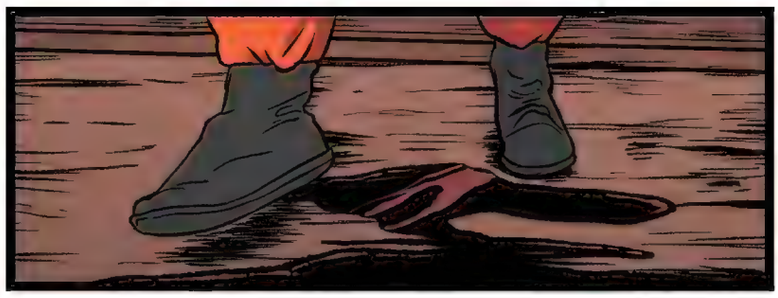
AND NOW WE WAIT.



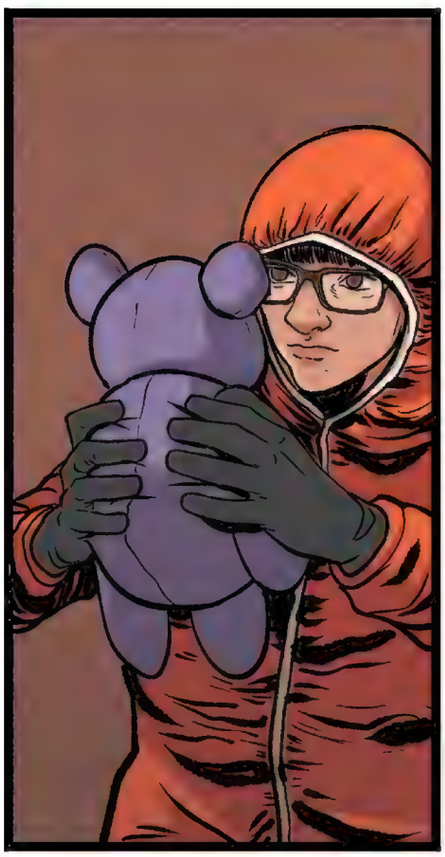


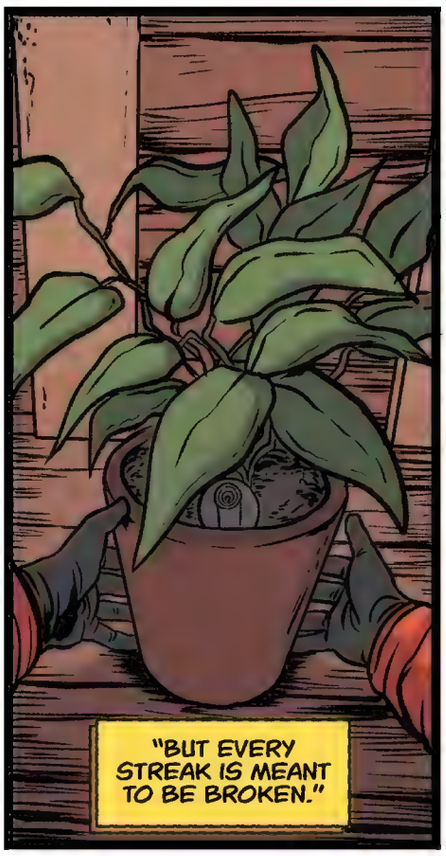


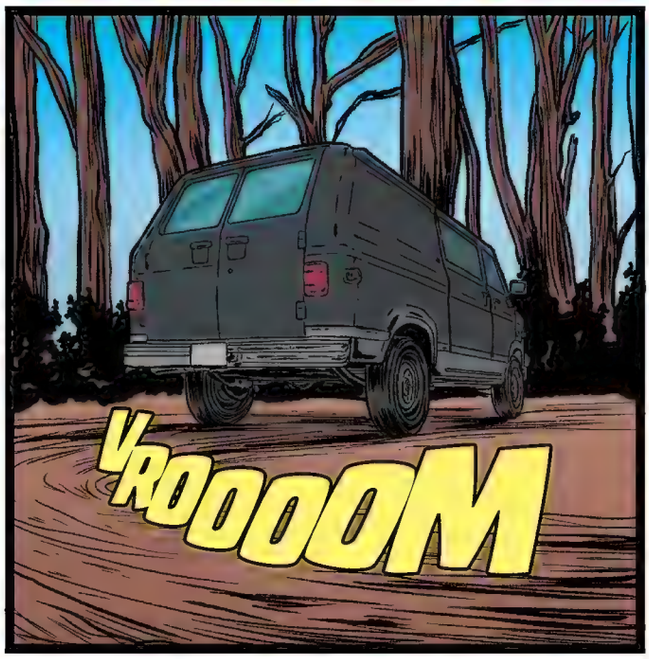
"THEY ALWAYS LEFT A MESSY TRAIL BEHIND WHEREVER THEY WENT.

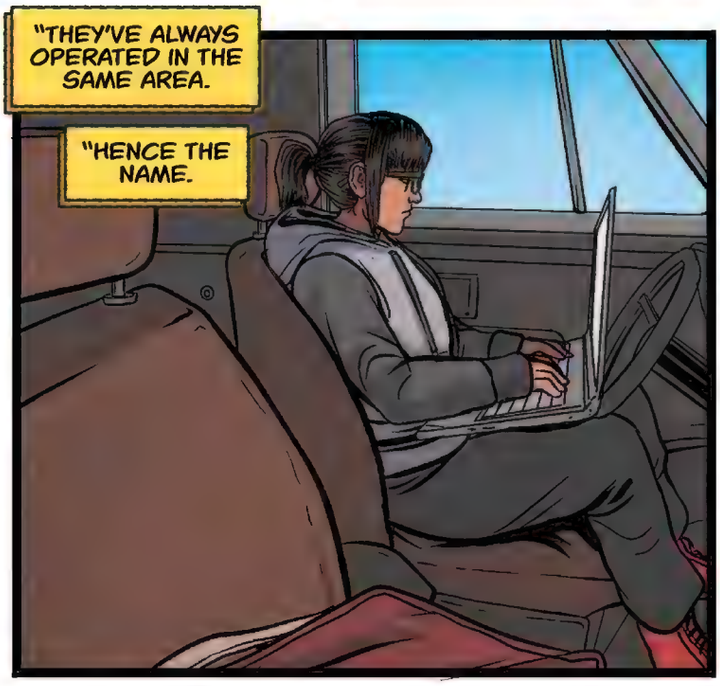


"AND YET THEY'VE COMPLETELY AVOIDED CAPTURE FOR NEARLY FIFTY YEARS.



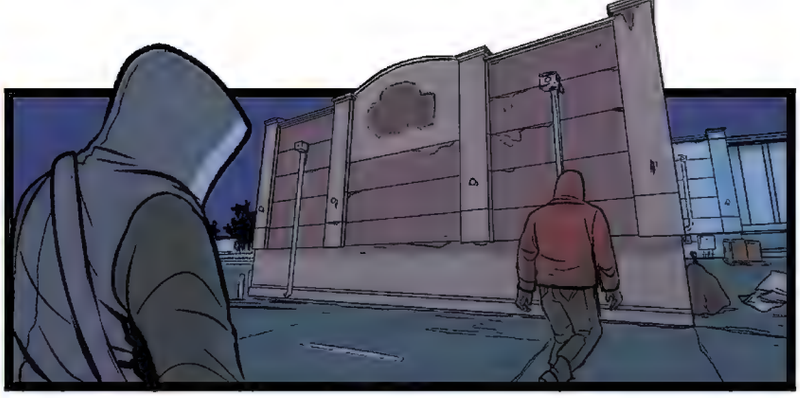

"BUT EVERY STREAK IS MEANT TO BE BROKEN."

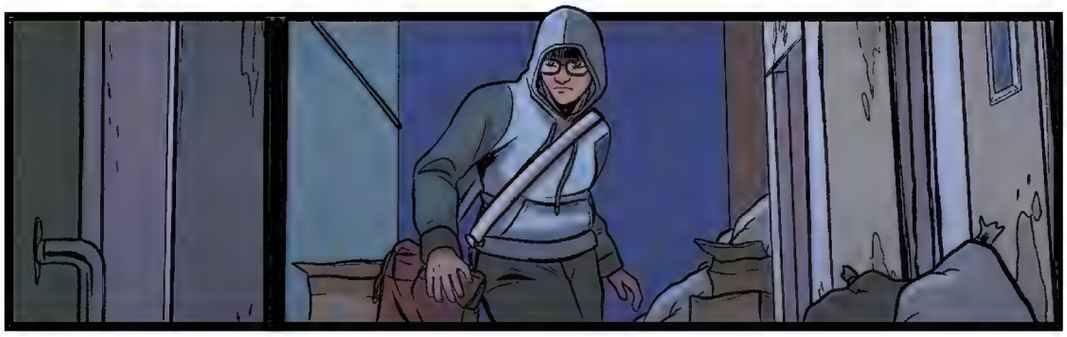

VROOOOM


"THEY'VE ALWAYS OPERATED IN THE SAME AREA.
"HENCE THE NAME.

"THERE'S ONLY SO MANY PLACES SOMEONE CAN HIDE."

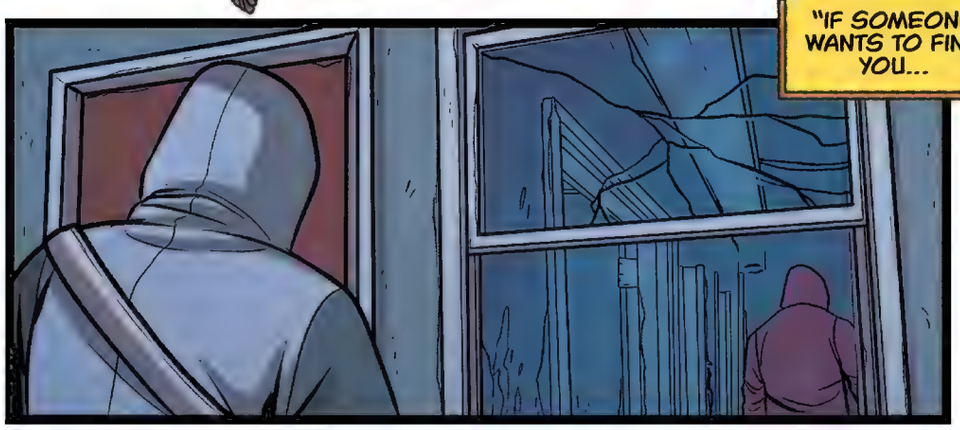
"IT USED TO BE EASIER TO GET AWAY AND HIDE AFTER WALKING INTO AN UNLOCKED HOUSE, KILLING A WHOLE FAMILY, AND GRABBING A BITE TO EAT ON THE WAY OUT THE DOOR.





"NOWADAYS, ANYONE CAN BE FOUND. EVERYONE HAS ACCESS TO GPS AND A CAMERA IN THEIR POCKET. ALMOST EVERY BUILDING HAS A HOME SECURITY SYSTEM INSTALLED.

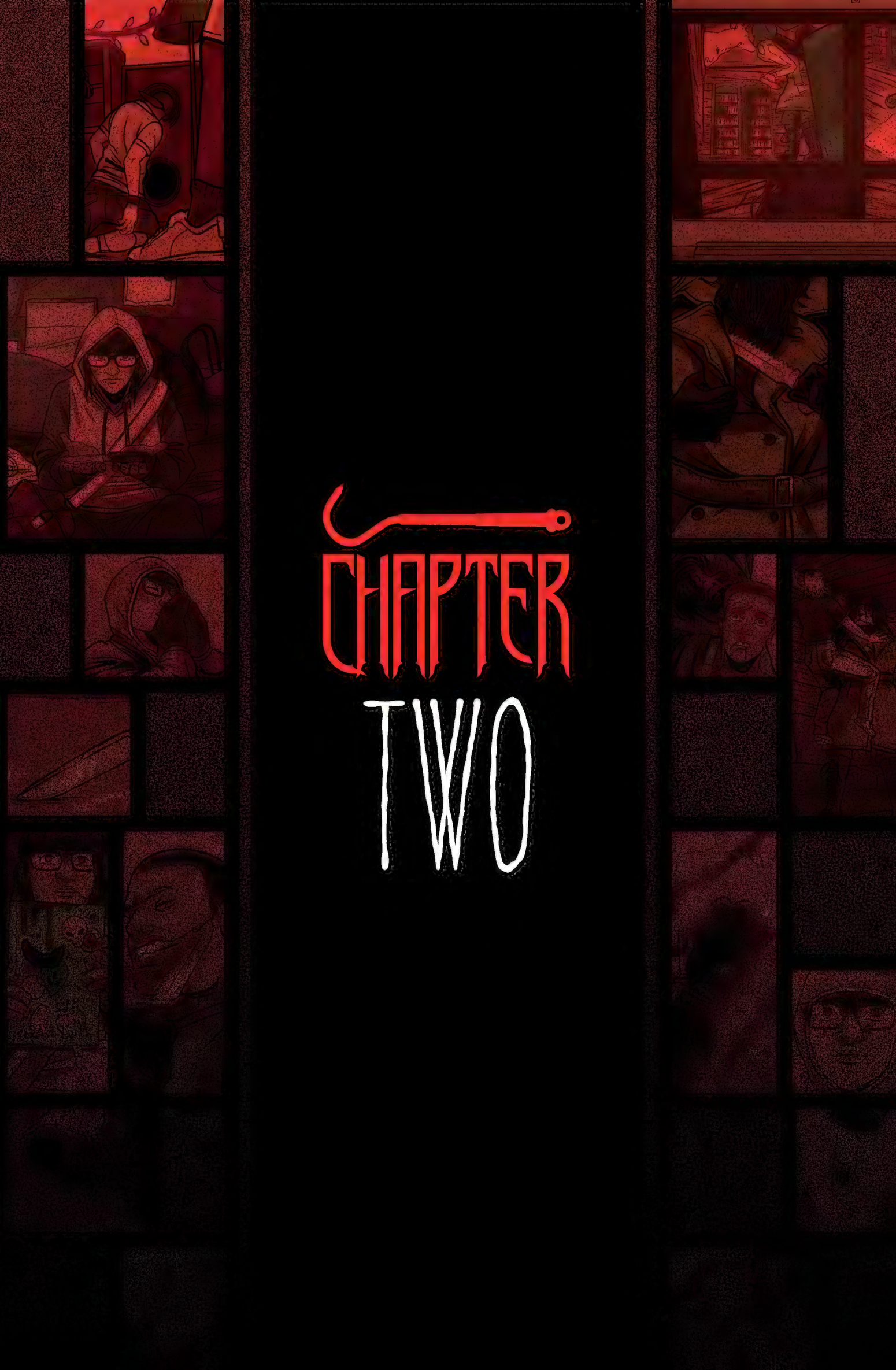
"IF SOMEONE WANTS TO FIND YOU...



THE ELUSIVE HOPTON VALLEY KILLER...

...I'VE FINALLY TRACKED YOU DOWN.

WOULD YOU HAVE ME AS YOUR APPRENTICE?


CHAPTER
TWO

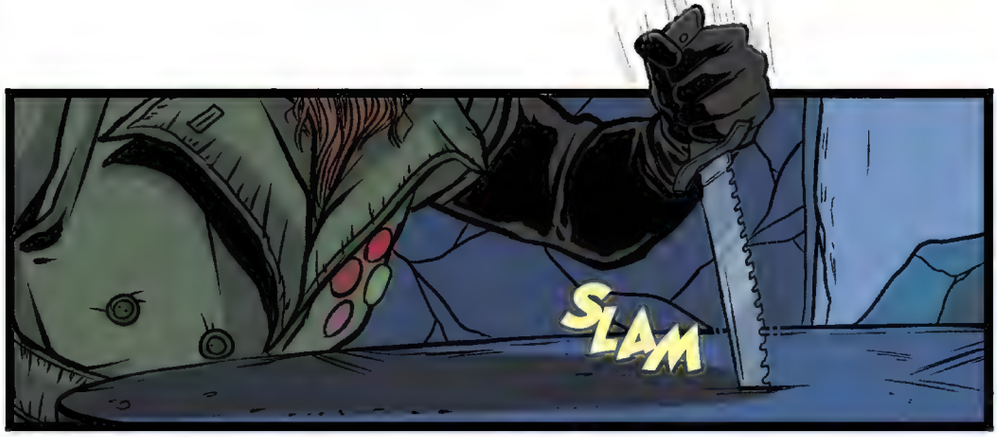
PIZZA

HEH--
MAYBE I SHOULD CLARIFY.

I'M RILEY, AND WHAT I MEAN WHEN I SAY APPRENTICE IS... I'M A BIG FAN OF YOUR WORK.

AND I WOULD LIKE TO FOLLOW IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS.

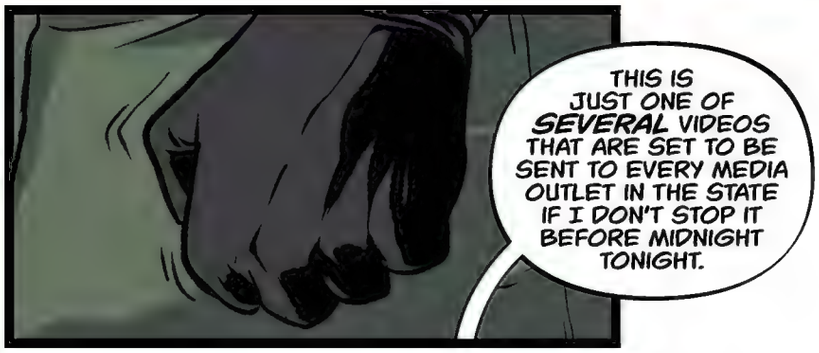
HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU.
I'VE BEEN DOING RESEARCH FOR A LONG TIME. I'VE FOLLOWED YOUR ENTIRE CAREER.
ALL THE WAY FROM THE TIME YOU KILLED THAT GUY WITH A CHANDELIER TO YOUR RECORD-SETTING SPREE IN '84.
AND THAT KILL IN '93! THE AMOUNT OF FRAT BOYS YOU OFFED IN THE SPAN OF ONLY AN HOUR IS THE STUFF OF LEGEND.
I'VE EVEN STAYED A FAN AFTER YOUR NOTORIETY FELL OFF.
THAT'S NOT TO SAY YOU'RE NOT STILL ONE OF THE GREATS!
I MEAN, YOU'RE THE HOPTON VALLEY KILLER! YOU'RE A LEGEND.


SLAM

WHOA, WHOA, WHOA.
I WOULDN'T DO THAT JUST YET.

I THINK YOU SHOULD WATCH THIS.

AHHH!
SPLRCH!


THIS IS JUST ONE OF SEVERAL VIDEOS THAT ARE SET TO BE SENT TO EVERY MEDIA OUTLET IN THE STATE IF I DON'T STOP IT BEFORE MIDNIGHT TONIGHT.

I DON'T WANT TO DO THAT. THAT'S NOT MY INTENT.
WHAT I DO WANT IS TO HELP YOU.
I THINK WITH MY HELP YOU CAN RETURN TO THE LEVEL OF NOTORIETY YOU DESERVE.
YOU'VE BEEN GETTING SLOPPY AS OF LATE. I PICKED THIS UP LAST NIGHT AFTER YOU LEFT.
BUP
YOU WERE RECENTLY ALMOST OVERRUN BY A GROUP THAT YOU DIDN'T SPLIT UP.
AND I DON'T THINK I NEED TO REMIND YOU ABOUT HOW BAD IT IS TO LEAVE A SURVIVOR.

WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER.
WITH YOU AS MY MENTOR, I COULD LEARN SO MUCH AND CONTINUE YOUR LEGACY.
AND WITH ME BY YOUR SIDE, YOU COULD BECOME THE LEGEND I KNOW YOU'RE MEANT TO BE.

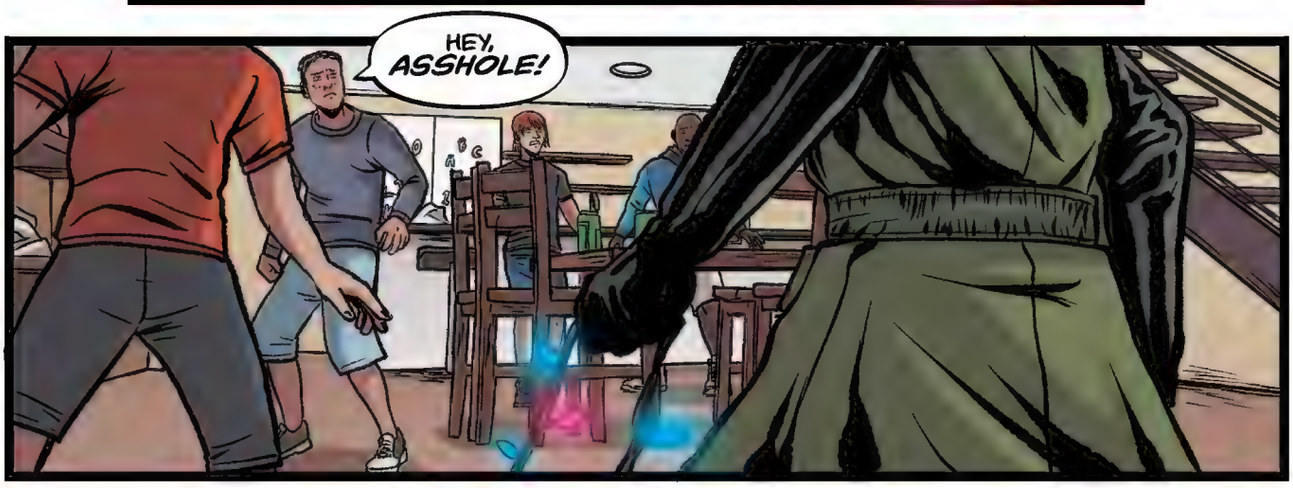
IN THE ONLINE CIRCLES I RUN IN, WE JUST CALL YOU HVK. YOUR FULL NAME IS KIND OF A MOUTHFUL.
MY NAME'S RILEY, BY THE WAY.
WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO COMMUNICATE.
CHNKK
WAIT...
...IS THAT...
IS THAT A YES? SHOULD I FOLLOW?

YOU KNOW, I HAVE A CAR, WE DON'T HAVE TO JUST WALK EVERYWHERE.
COULD WE AT LEAST GO AT A FASTER PACE THAN "MENACINGLY SLOW?"
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW.
TRUST THE PROCESS.

ARE WE DOING WHAT I *THINK* WE'RE DOING?
Do you know how many *bodies* we're dealing with here?
The music is nice and loud, they'll never hear a thing.
Zjjip

SKREEECH
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MUSIC?
SLAASH
HOLY SHIT!
AA--
SLICE
WHAT THE FUCK?

GURRRKKKK


HEY, ASSHOLE!

URRRGH!

UHHH...
GOT IT.
KRRSH
OH NO! I'M A FEMALE IN NEED OF HELP! SOMEONE, COME QUICK!
I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WERE GIRLS AT THIS PARTY.
ΦΔ

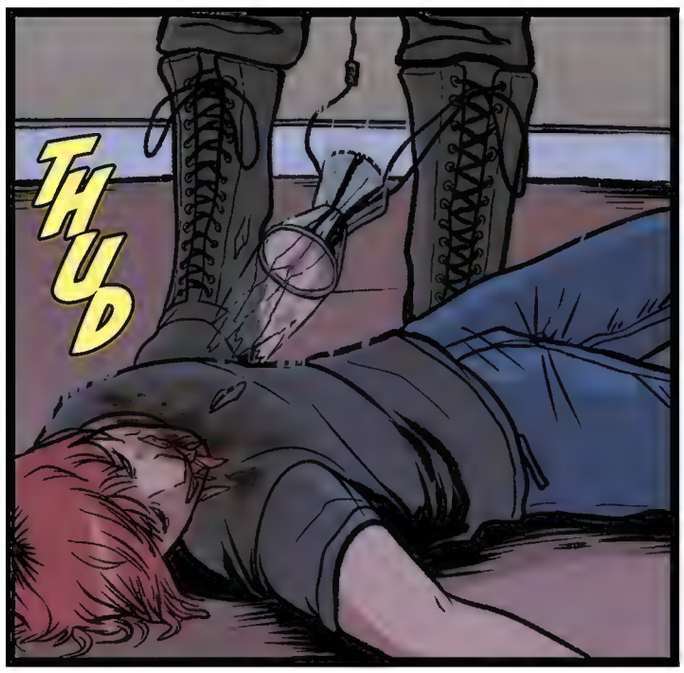
HANG ON!
WE'RE COMING!
I've got this.
HEY, ARE YOU OKAY?
MMMPH!
SNAP

Come on, you can do this.
HEY, YOU SHOULD REALLY GET SOMEWHERE SAFE.
KLAK
UHHH, OKAY.

WHAT ARE YOU WEARING?
SPLRG
KRSH
LOOK OUT!
WHA--

ST--
HRK
GLOOP

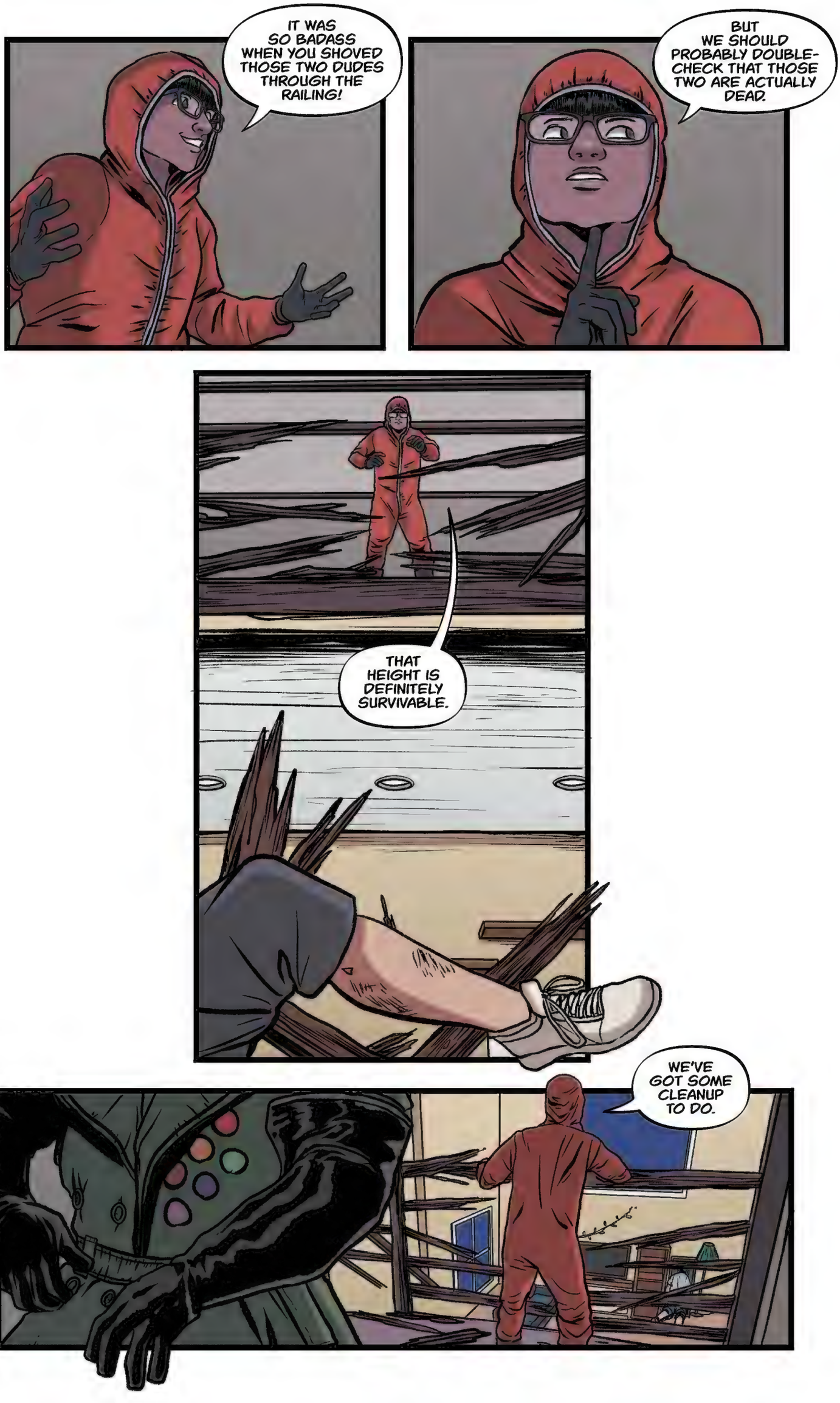
THAT WAS AMAZING!


THUD

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D GET TO WITNESS YOU IN ACTION LIKE THAT.

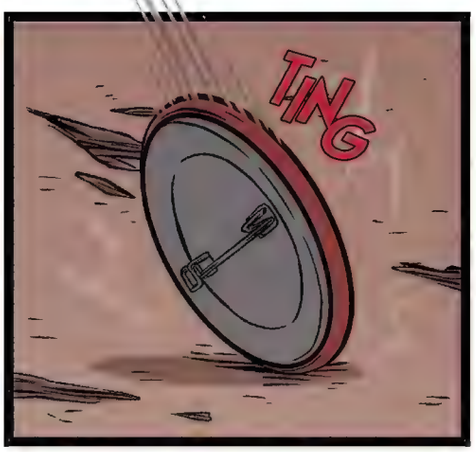
A LAVA LAMP?! GENIUS!
I NEVER WOULD'VE THOUGHT OF THAT.

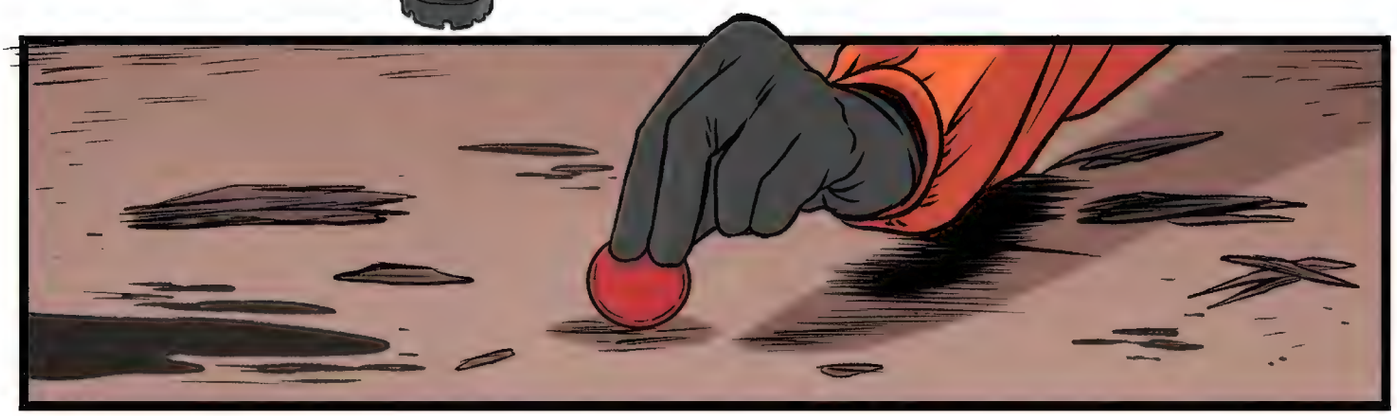
YOU HAVE TO ADMIT THAT I WAS SOMEWHAT USEFUL.


IT WAS SO BADASS WHEN YOU SHOVED THOSE TWO DUDES THROUGH THE RAILING!
BUT WE SHOULD PROBABLY DOUBLE-CHECK THAT THOSE TWO ARE ACTUALLY DEAD.
THAT HEIGHT IS DEFINITELY SURVIVABLE.
WE'VE GOT SOME CLEANUP TO DO.

SPLORT!

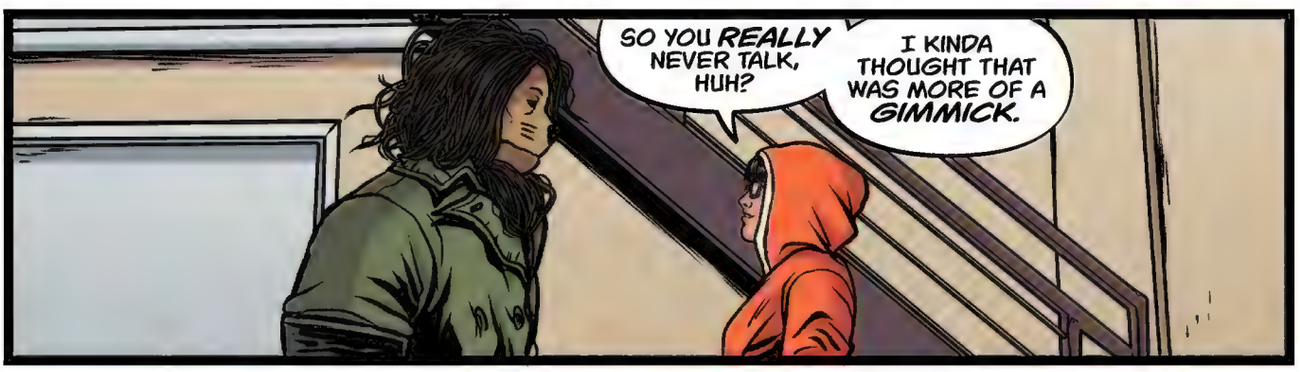
LOOKS LIKE WE CAN CHECK THAT OFF THE LIST.
GOOD WORK.


TING



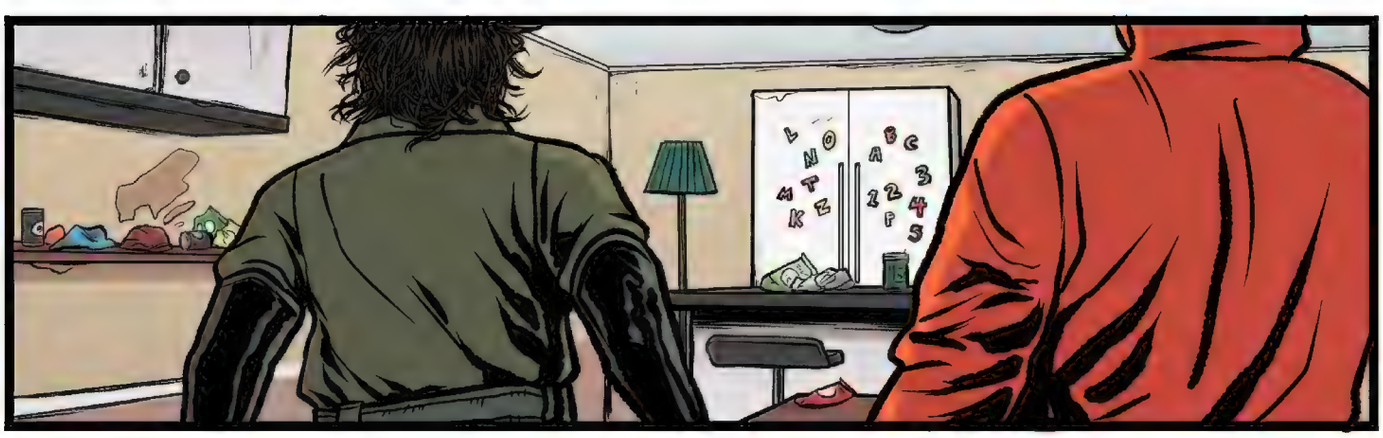
WE GOTTA FIND YOU SOME NEW PINS.

WE CAN'T HAVE THESE FALLING OFF AT EVERY CRIME SCENE WE'RE AT.


SO YOU REALLY NEVER TALK, HUH?
I KINDA THOUGHT THAT WAS MORE OF A GIMMICK.

SO...

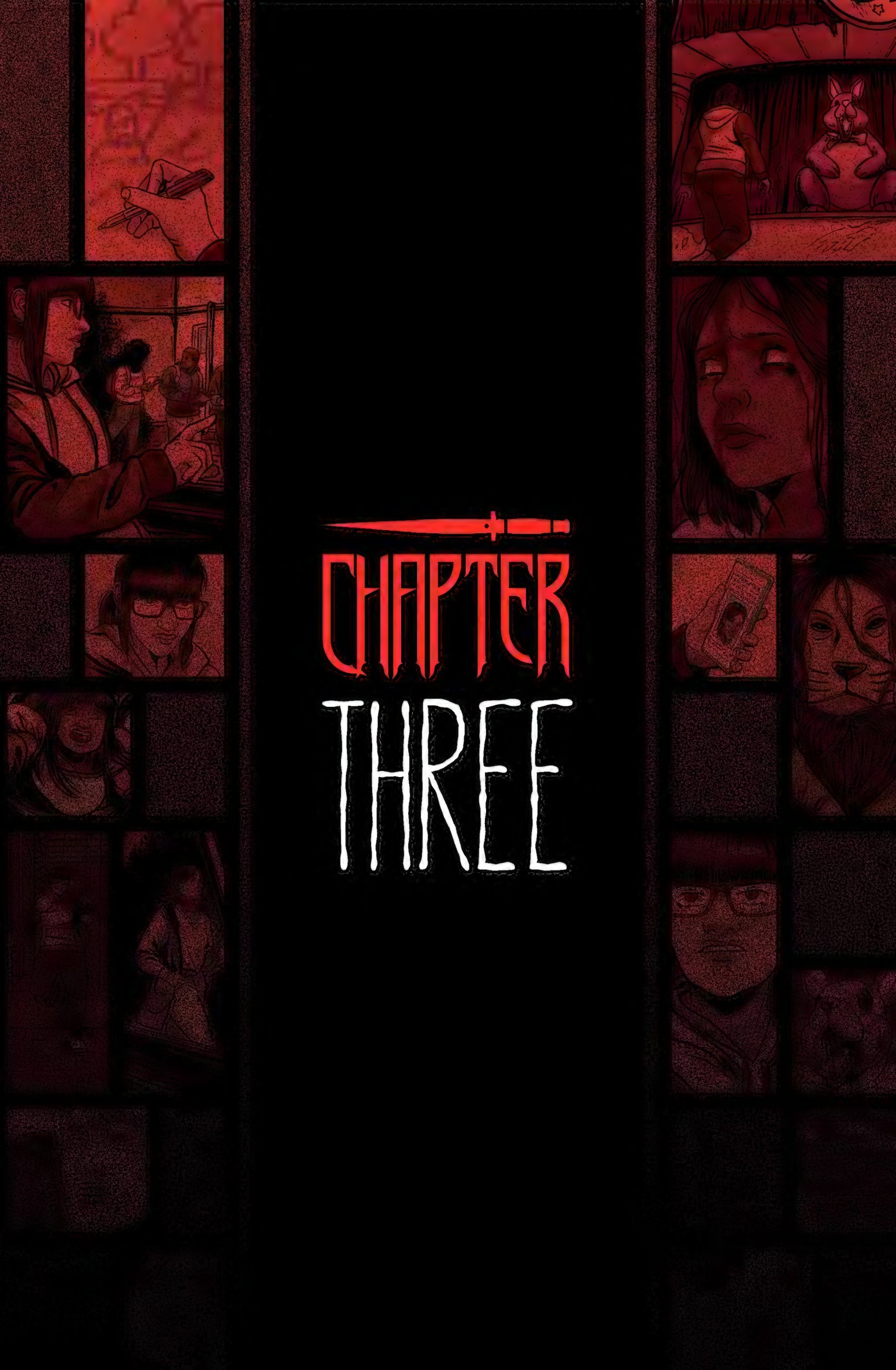
...DO YOU THINK I'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES?



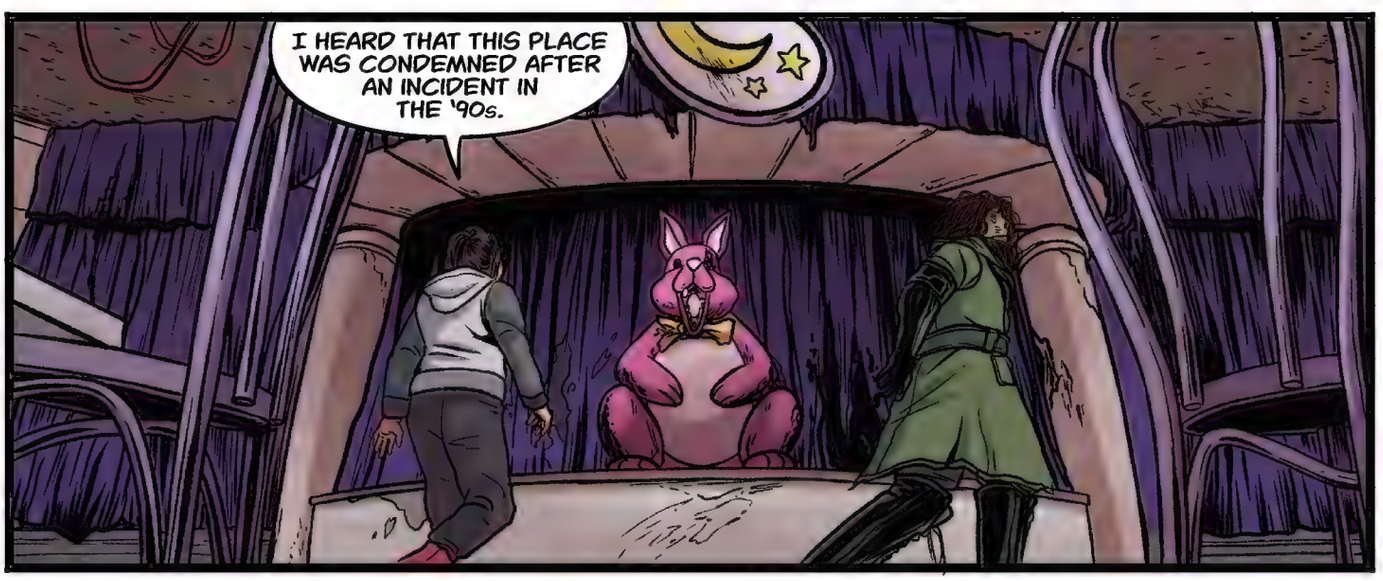
Skkff
Skkkffff

4 NOW

REC
CHIP

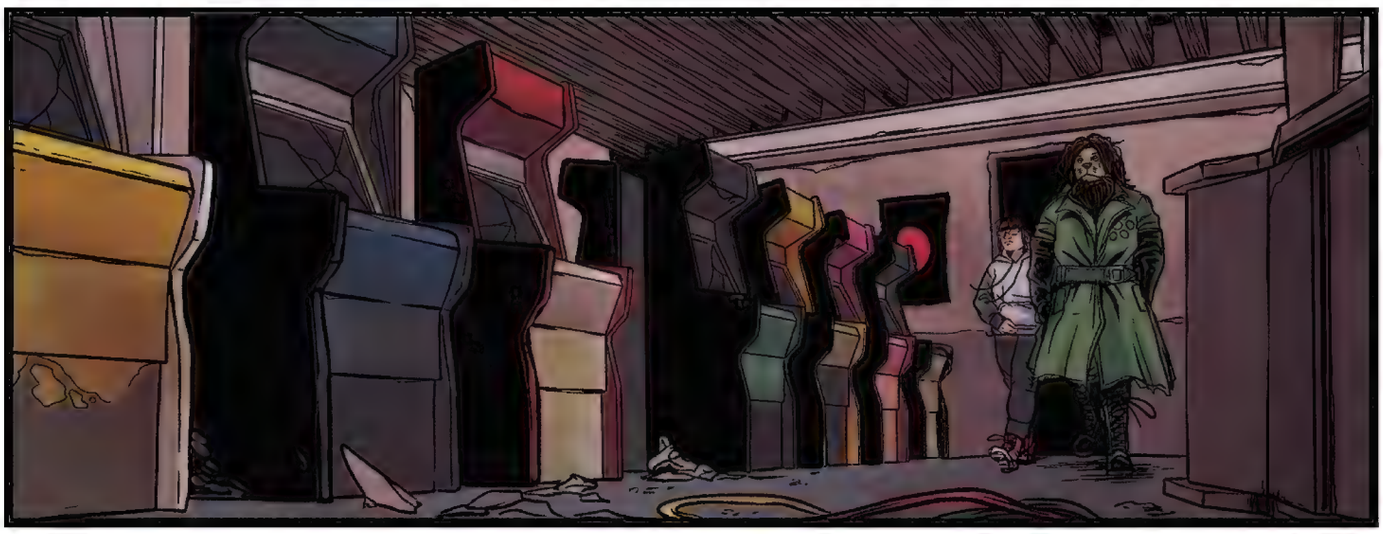

CHAPTER
THREE

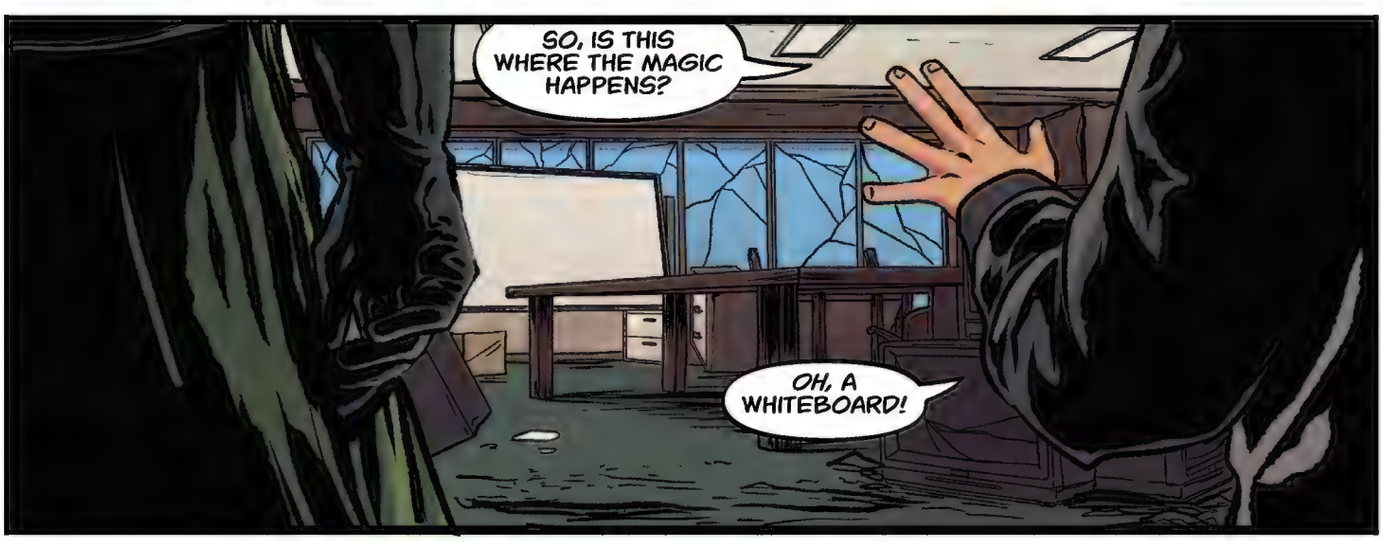
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS WHERE YOU LIVE!


I HEARD THAT THIS PLACE WAS CONDEMNED AFTER AN INCIDENT IN THE '90s.

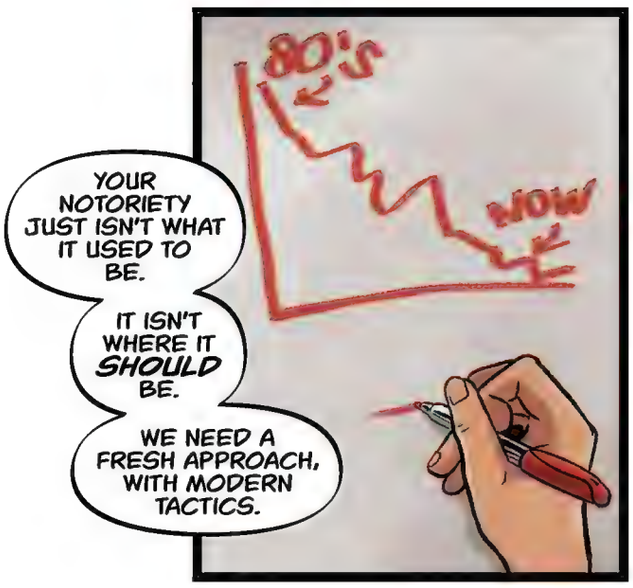
I GUESS THE COCKROACH INFESTATION NEVER GOT TAKEN CARE OF.

IT'S PERFECT.

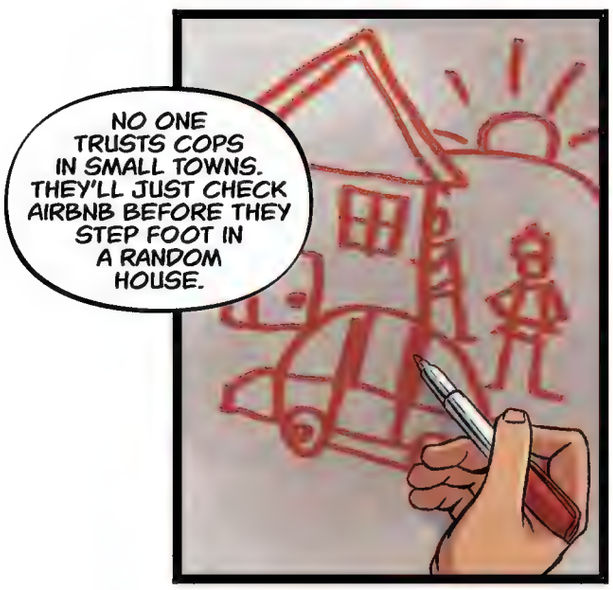



SO, IS THIS WHERE THE MAGIC HAPPENS?
OH, A WHITEBOARD!

OKAY. I'VE GOT SOME IDEAS.
BUT FIRST, WE HAVE TO ACKNOWLEDGE SOME HARD TRUTHS.


80's
NOW
YOUR NOTORIETY JUST ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE.
IT ISN'T WHERE IT SHOULD BE.
WE NEED A FRESH APPROACH, WITH MODERN TACTICS.

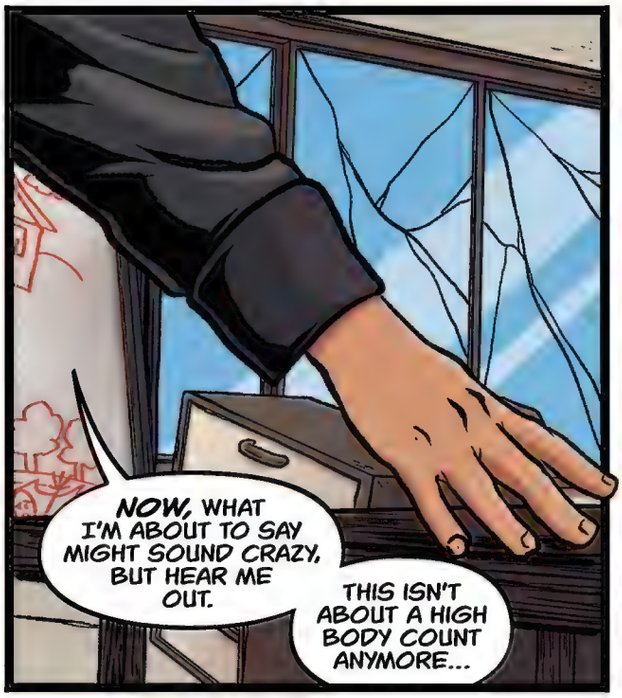
IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO BE THE CALL COMING FROM INSIDE THE HOUSE.
NO ONE TAKES CALLS ANYMORE.


NO ONE TRUSTS COPS IN SMALL TOWNS. THEY'LL JUST CHECK AIRBNB BEFORE THEY STEP FOOT IN A RANDOM HOUSE.

AND NO ONE SENDS THEIR KIDS TO SUMMER CAMP THESE DAYS.

ONE MORE THING...
...WE NEED TO EMPHASIZE MORE PLANNING AHEAD OF TIME. YOU CAN'T JUST FIND A RANDOM PARTY.

FOR OUR NEXT SPREE, WE NEED TO TAKE OUR TIME AND FIND A SMALL GROUP OF FOUR OR FIVE MAX.
WE WAIT FOR THE RIGHT TIME TO STRIKE.
80'S
WOW


NOW, WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SAY MIGHT SOUND CRAZY, BUT HEAR ME OUT.
THIS ISN'T ABOUT A HIGH BODY COUNT ANYMORE...

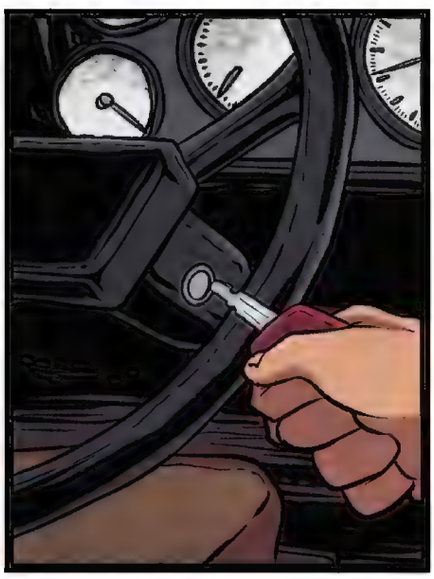
...WE NEED TO LET ONE SURVIVE.

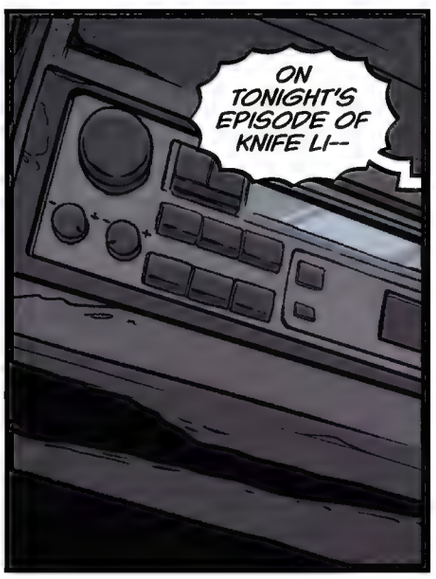
I KNOW THAT THAT'S A TOUCHY TOPIC FOR YOU, BUT YOU NEED TO TRUST ME.

YOU WANT WORD TO SPREAD, AND NOTHING SPREADS INFORMATION FASTER THAN A FRESHLY TRAUMATIZED TEENAGER.

SO! WHAT KIND OF LIGHTING DO THEY HAVE LYING AROUND THIS PLACE?

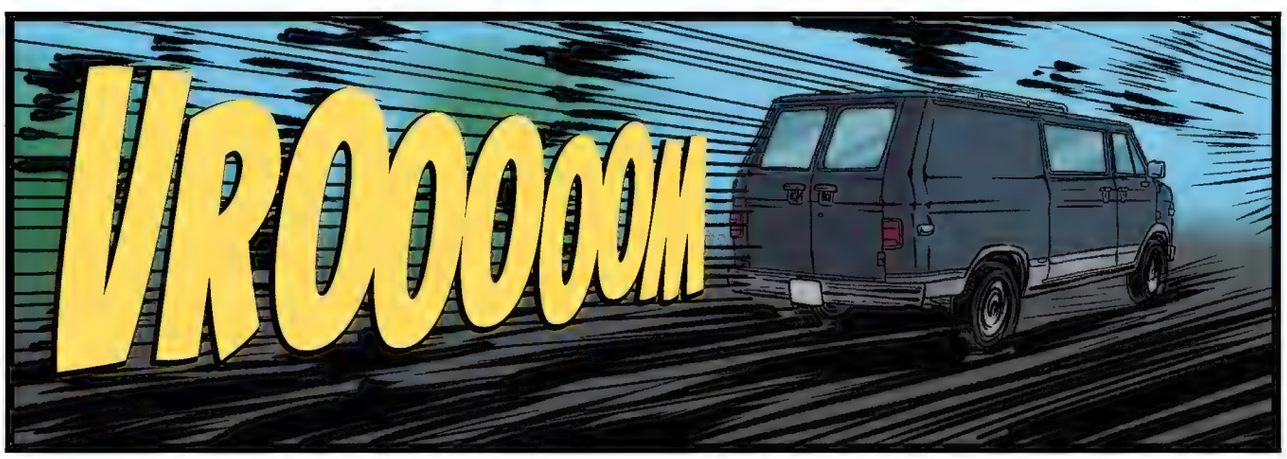
WALKING EVERYWHERE IS FUN AND ALL, BUT TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.

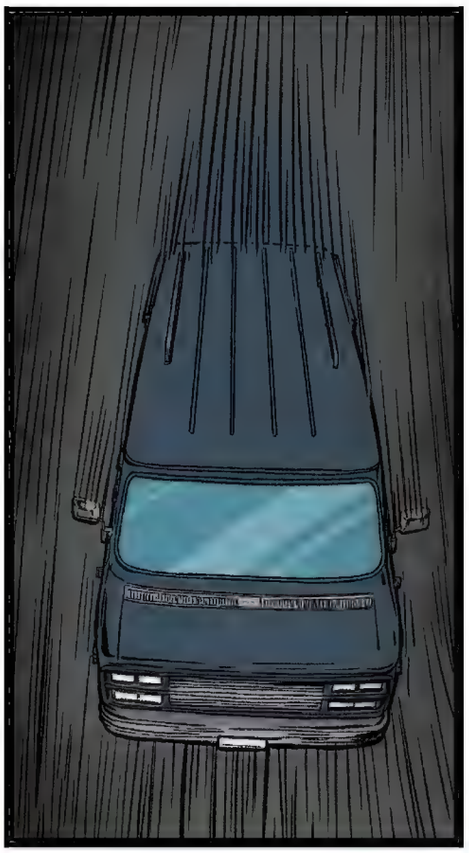



ON TONIGHT'S EPISODE OF KNIFE LI--

Klik

HEH, THAT'S NOTHING! FORGOT I WAS HOOKED UP TO BLUETOOTH.

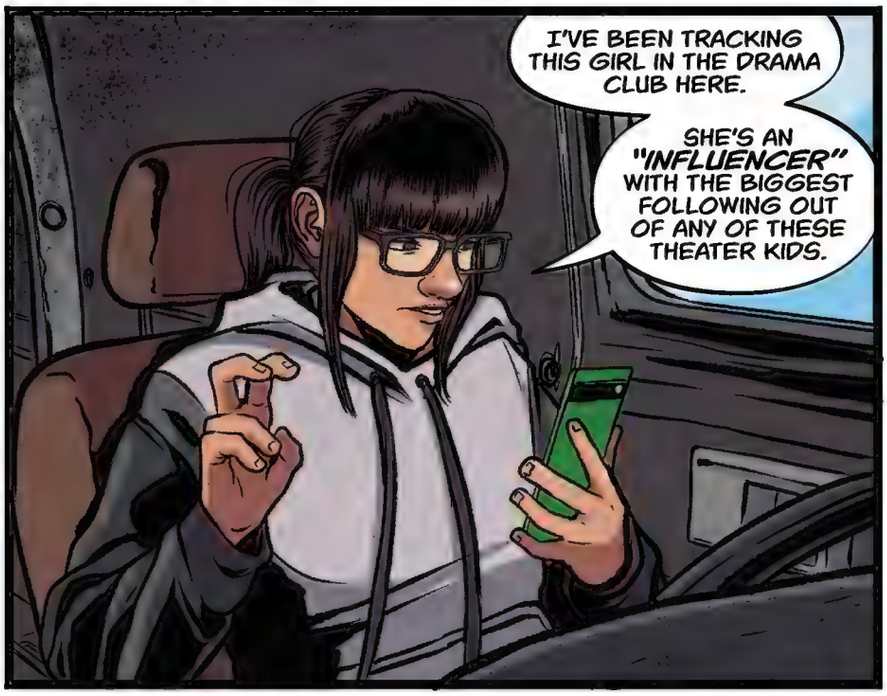

VROOOOOM



WE'RE NOT HEADED THERE, THAT'S FOR SURE.

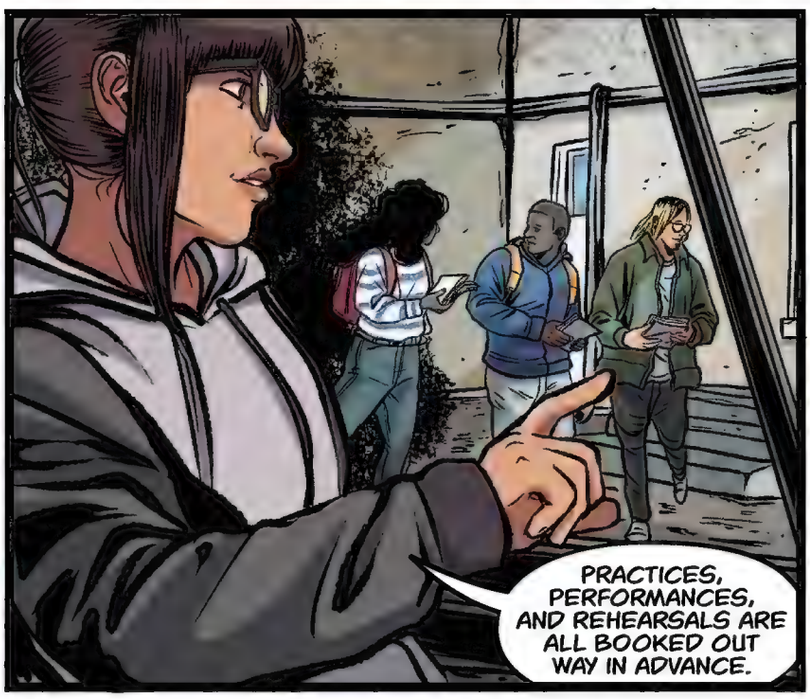
04
"YOU DON'T WANT TO TARGET JOCKS ANYMORE."

THIS IS WHERE WE WANT TO BE.
EE EEEE

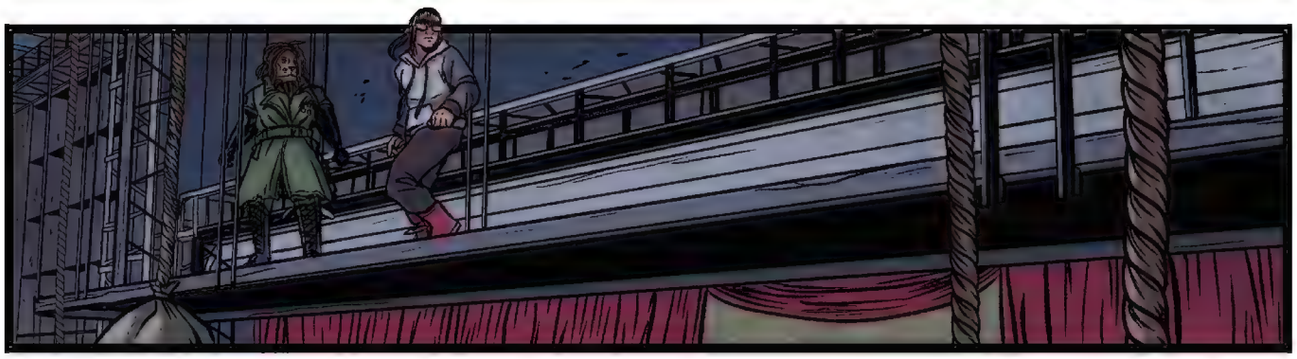

I'VE BEEN TRACKING THIS GIRL IN THE DRAMA CLUB HERE.
SHE'S AN "INFLUENCER" WITH THE BIGGEST FOLLOWING OUT OF ANY OF THESE THEATER KIDS.

EVEN HAVING A HIGH FOLLOWER COUNT ONLINE DOESN'T MEAN THEY'RE NOT OUTCASTS AMONG OTHER KIDS.
THEY'RE EASIER TO FOLLOW AND ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE ON THEIR OWN.

THEY ALSO ADHERE TO A STRICT SCHEDULE.

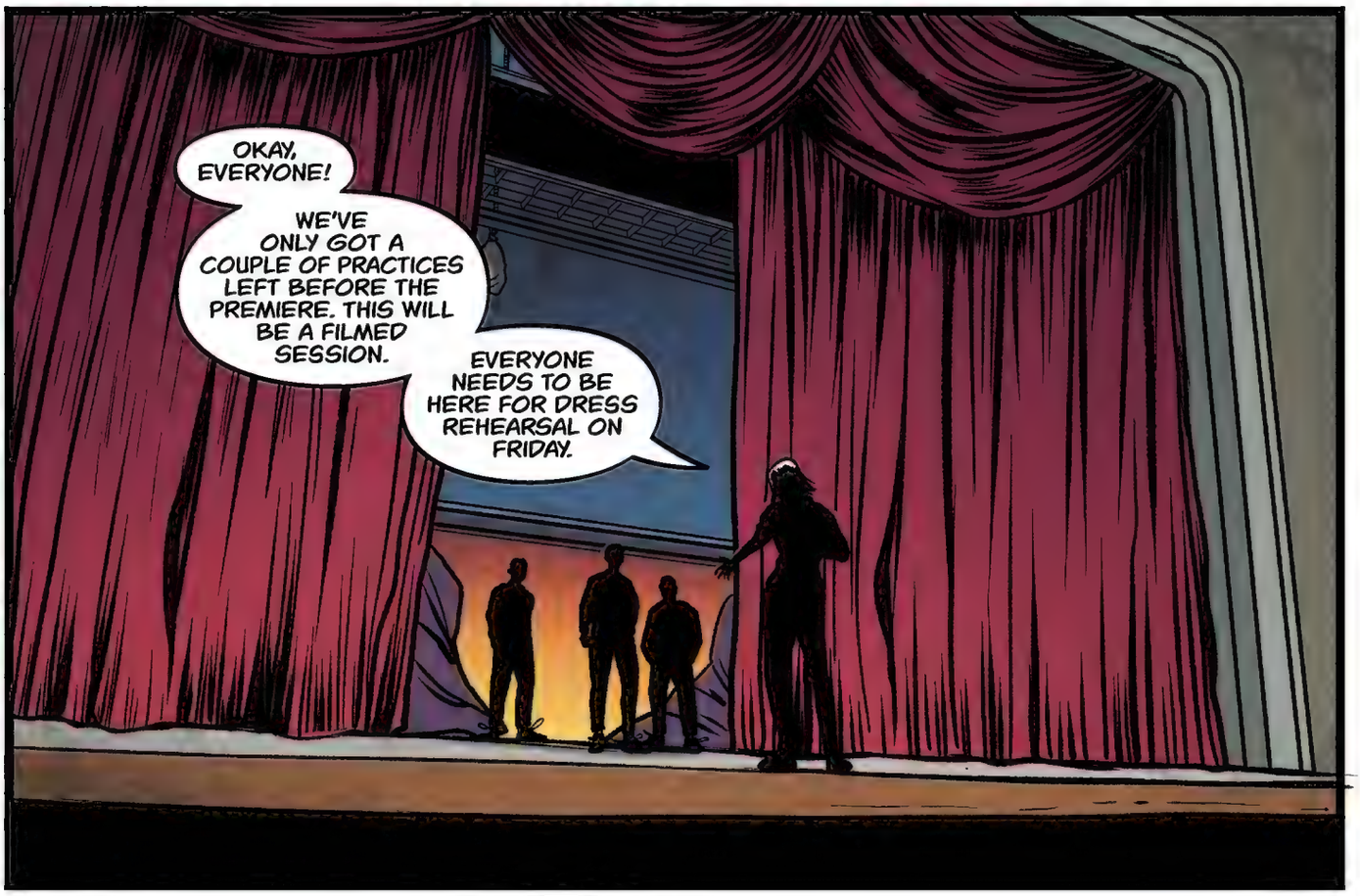

PRACTICES, PERFORMANCES, AND REHEARSALS ARE ALL BOOKED OUT WAY IN ADVANCE.

THERE GOES OUR GIRL.



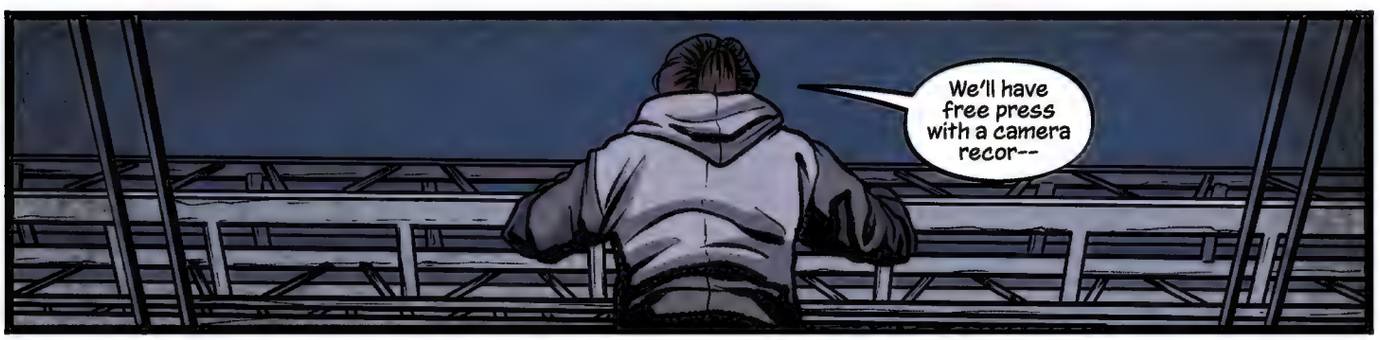
HARK! WHO GOES THERE? I SAID, WHO GOES THERE?
WAIT, WHAT PAGE ARE WE AT AGAIN?
WHY DON'T YOU EVER KNOW YOUR LINES?

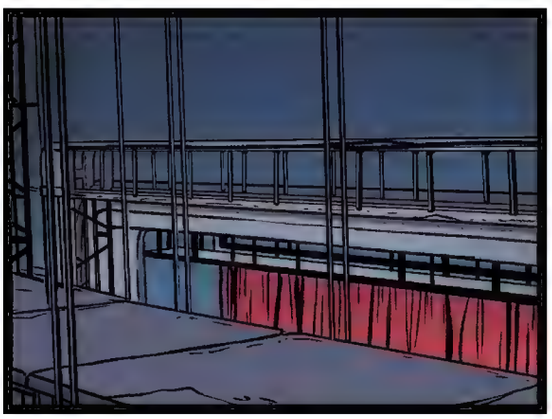
"It is I, Ferdinand of Yorkshire."
It's really not that hard of a line.


OKAY, EVERYONE!
WE'VE ONLY GOT A COUPLE OF PRACTICES LEFT BEFORE THE PREMIERE. THIS WILL BE A FILMED SESSION.
EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE HERE FOR DRESS REHEARSAL ON FRIDAY.

NO EXCEPTIONS.

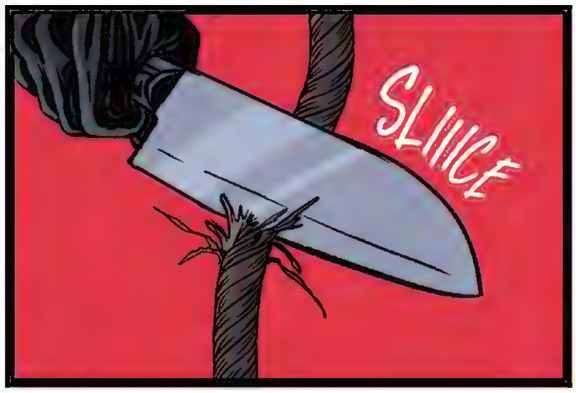
That's perfect!


We'll have free press with a camera recor--



Where did they...

Oh, goddammit.


SLIIICE

THUD
LOOK OUT!
AH!
HOLY SHIT!
WHAM
OH, MY GOD, THAT WAS SO CLOSE TO HITTING ME, YOU GUYS.

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
THAT WAS NOT PART OF THE PLAN.
WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE IN THIS TOGETHER.
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE USED TO WORKING ALONE AND DOING THINGS A CERTAIN WAY, BUT THIS ISN'T GOING TO WORK IF YOU WON'T LISTEN TO MY INPUT.
OKAY, HOLD ON A SECOND.

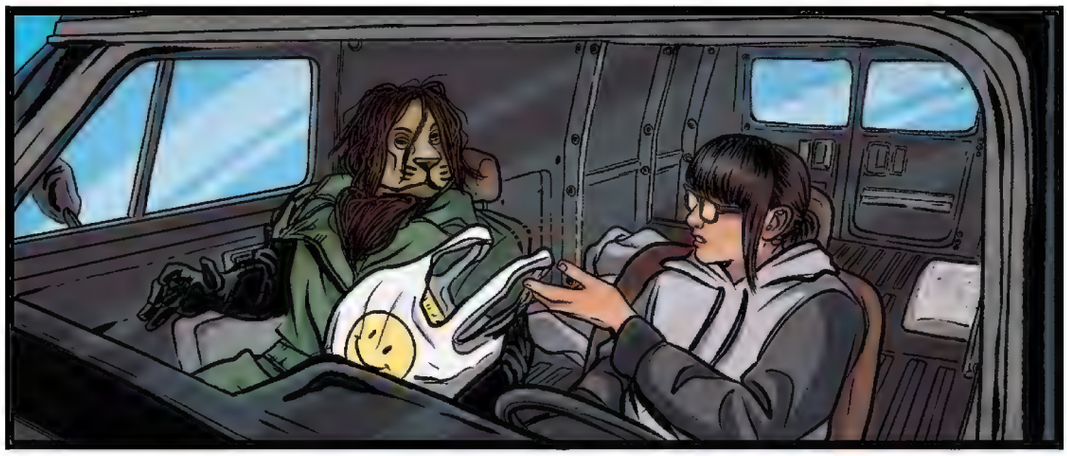
DEE GEES

CAN YOU STAY PUT FOR A MINUTE?

OKAY. GOOD TALK.
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

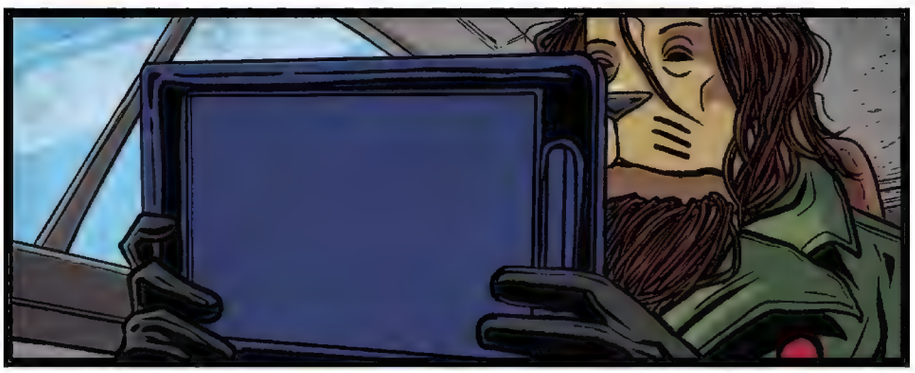
SALE

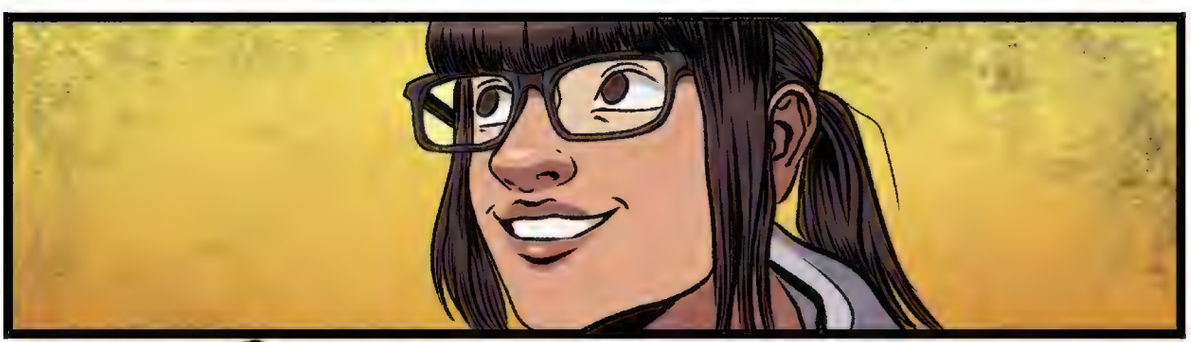
SALE!
20%
DOODLE



COMMUNICATION.

WE NEED TO WORK ON IT.





SCRTCH

TO
SLOW

I KNOW! THAT'S THE POINT.

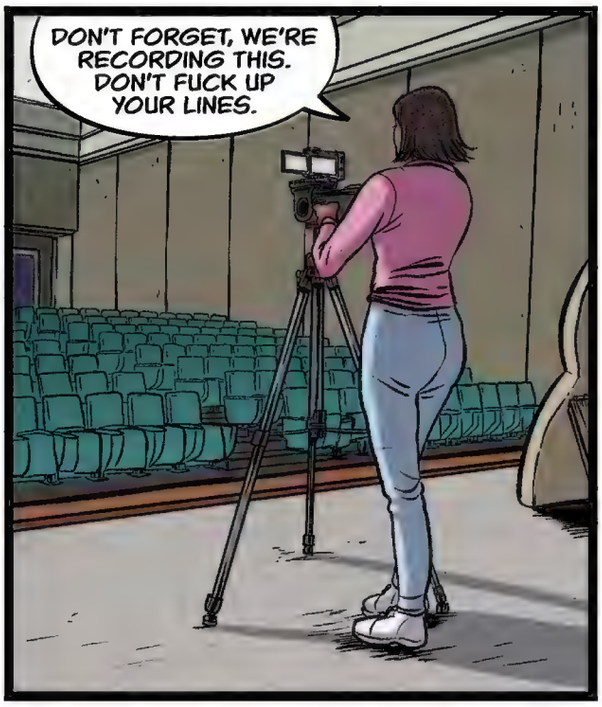
THIS ISN'T SOMETHING TO RUSH. WE NEED A PLAN AND WE NEED TO *STICK* TO THAT PLAN.
WE HAVE TO TAKE EVERYTHING INTO ACCOUNT.

THAT CAMERA BEING THERE IS WORTH WAITING FOR AND DEEP DOWN I THINK YOU KNOW I'M RIGHT.

NOW LET'S TRY IT MY WAY.
TO SLOW

TOO SLOW

OKAY, PEOPLE, THIS IS IT.
EVERYONE BETTER BE ON THEIR MARK BY THE TIME I FINISH THIS SENTENCE.


DON'T FORGET, WE'RE RECORDING THIS. DON'T FUCK UP YOUR LINES.

HEAR YE, OUR TALE BEGINS MANY A FORTNIGHT AGO...

...THIS IS A TALE OF BLOOD AND BETRAYAL.

OF LOVE AND LUST!

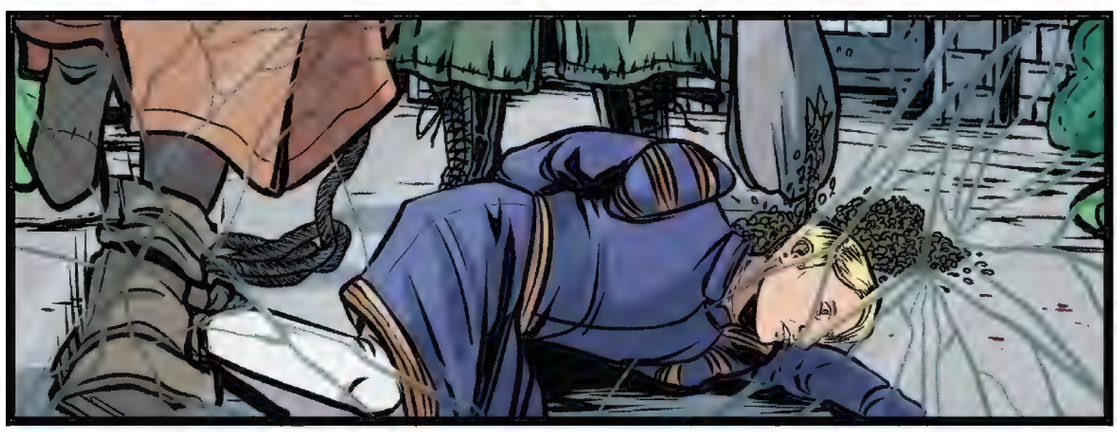
TERROR AND TURMOIL.

GURRK!

DEVON! DID YOU FORGET YOUR--
--OH, MY GOD!

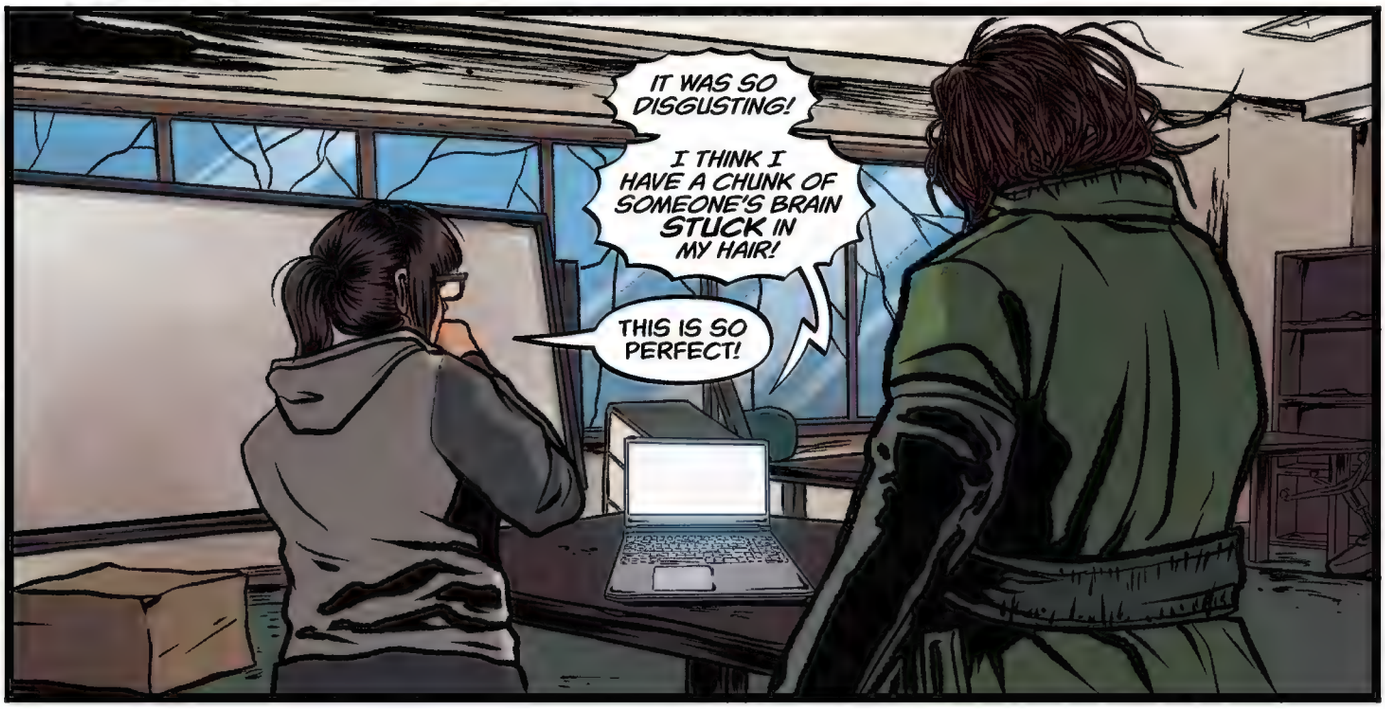
HRRGH!

HEEY! STOOP!



MMPH!
PUT THE FUCKING CAMERA DOWN AND RUN!
OH, SHIT!

OHMYGOD
OHMYGOD
MYGOD
YOU GUYS!
THERE'S A MANIAC ON THE LOOSE!
EVERYONE IS DEAD! I THINK I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO MADE IT OUT!
I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MUCH BLOOD!


IT WAS SO DISGUSTING!
I THINK I HAVE A CHUNK OF SOMEONE'S BRAIN STUCK IN MY HAIR!
THIS IS SO PERFECT!

THAT WENT BETTER THAN I COULD'VE EVER DREAMED OF!

DID YOU SEE HOW THEY FUNNELED IN ONE AT A TIME FOR YOU?

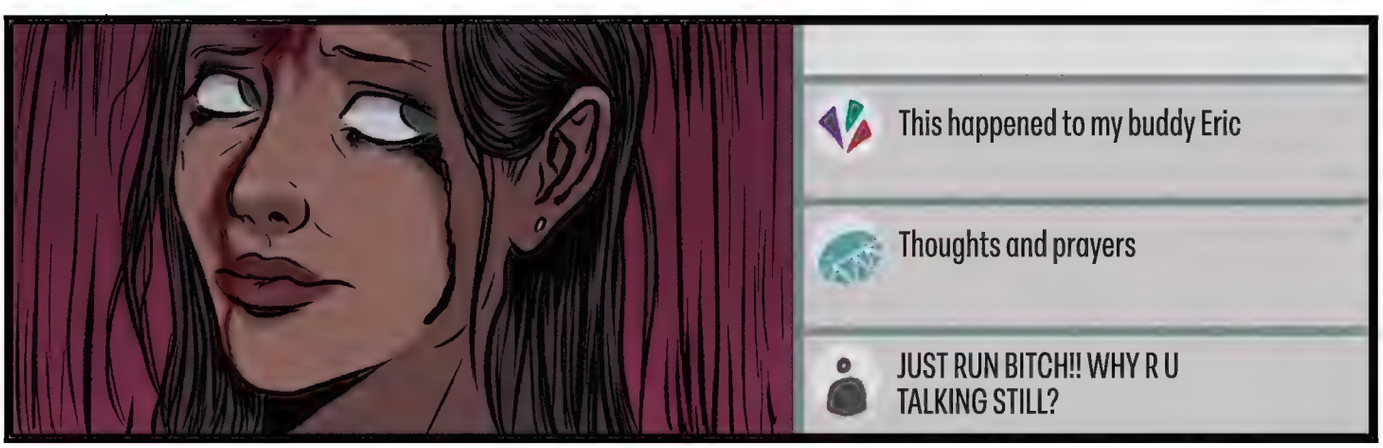
WE MAKE A PRETTY GOOD TEAM, DON'T YOU THINK?

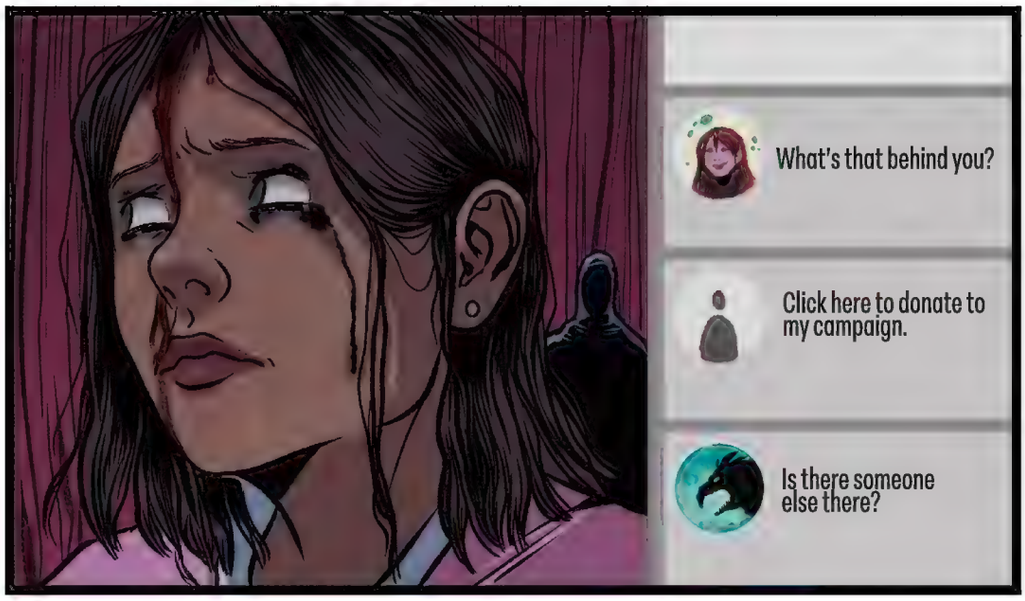
SCRTCH

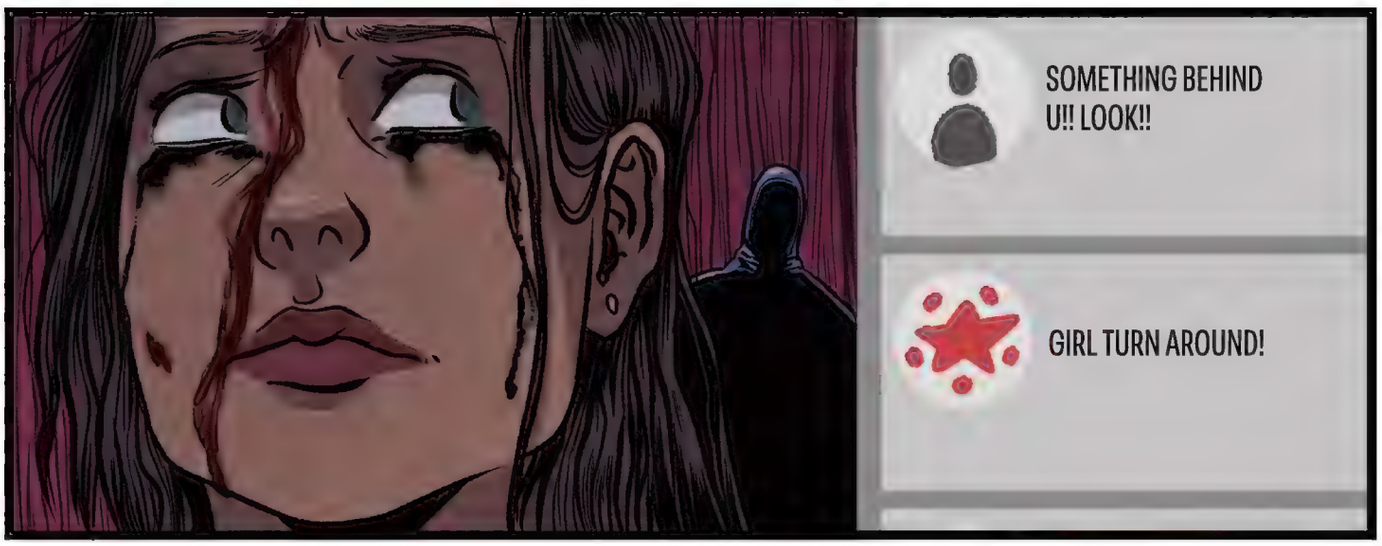
GOOD WERK

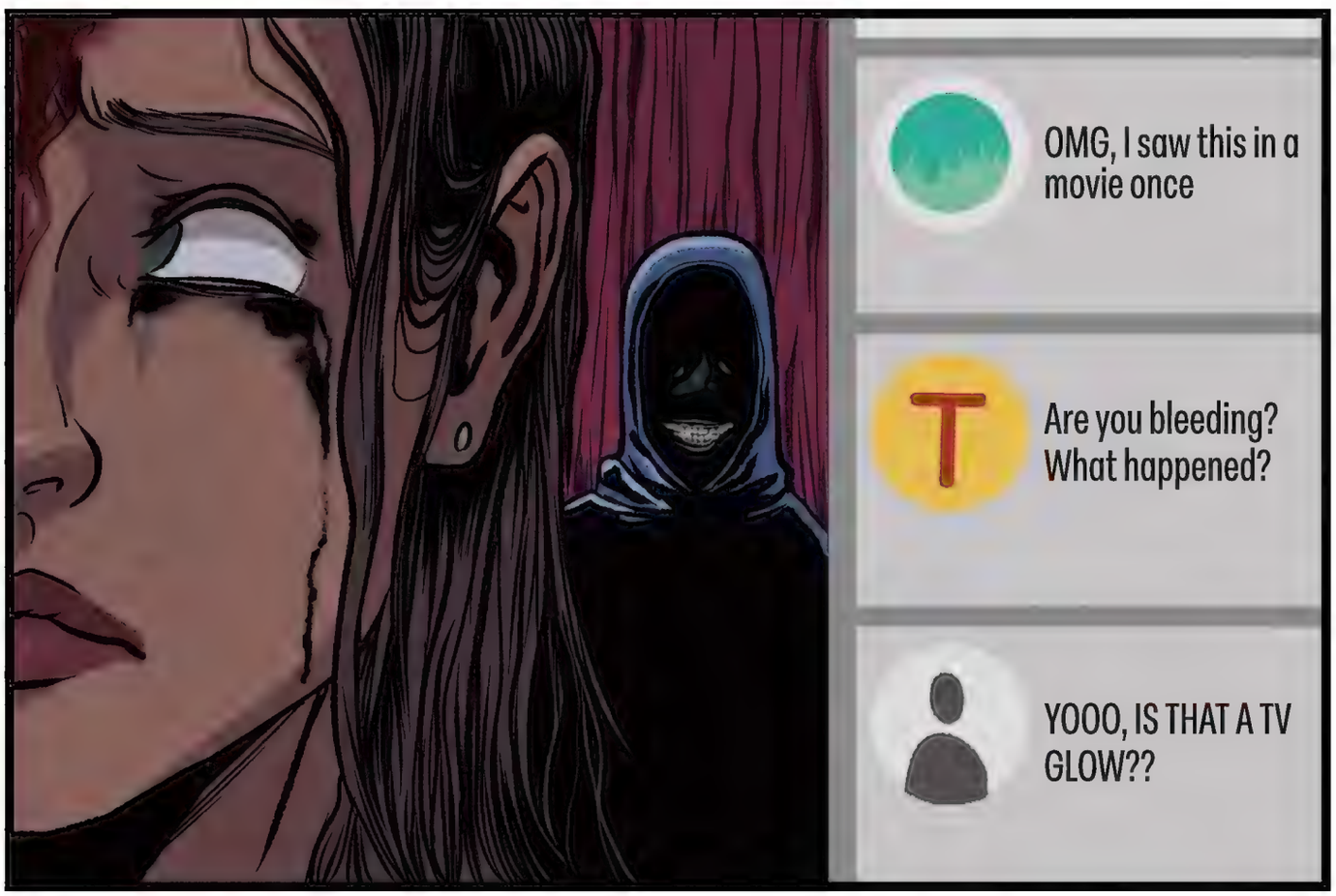
YOU DID THAT ONE ON PURPOSE.

YOU STILL SPELL BETTER THAN THE PEOPLE IN THE COMMENTS!


This happened to my buddy Eric
Thoughts and prayers
JUST RUN BITCH!! WHY R U TALKING STILL?


What's that behind you?
Click here to donate to my campaign.
Is there someone else there?


SOMETHING BEHIND U!! LOOK!!
GIRL TURN AROUND!


OMG, I saw this in a movie once
T
Are you bleeding? What happened?
YOOO, IS THAT A TV GLOW??

CHAPTER
FOUR

KRSSSH
ARE YOU READY TO TRANSFORM OUR LIFE?
GET READY TO TOSS OUT YOUR OLD--
SLICE
IT'S TIME FOR--
--SOMETHING NEW!

KRSSH

BZZT
BZZT

/Killer
What happens when nothing ever changes?
/Killer
Stagnation.
BZZT
/Killer
When things stagnate, they die. The only way to fix it is to--
TOSS OUT THAT OLD SET! YOU DON'T NEED IT ANYMORE!
/Killer
I grow tired--
THE SAME OLD ROUTINE IS SO BORING. YOU DON'T WANT THAT IN YOUR LIFE!
BZZT
/Killer
Without change, you can never...

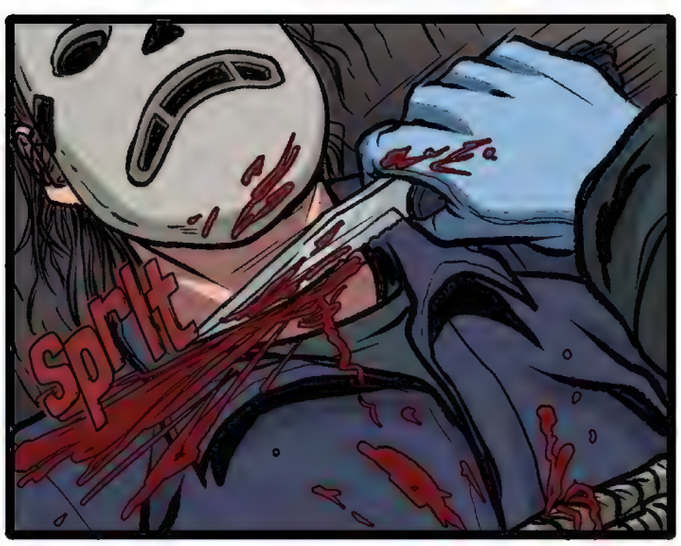
Killer
...Flourisssh

NOW! WHAT DO WE SAY?

SLASH!

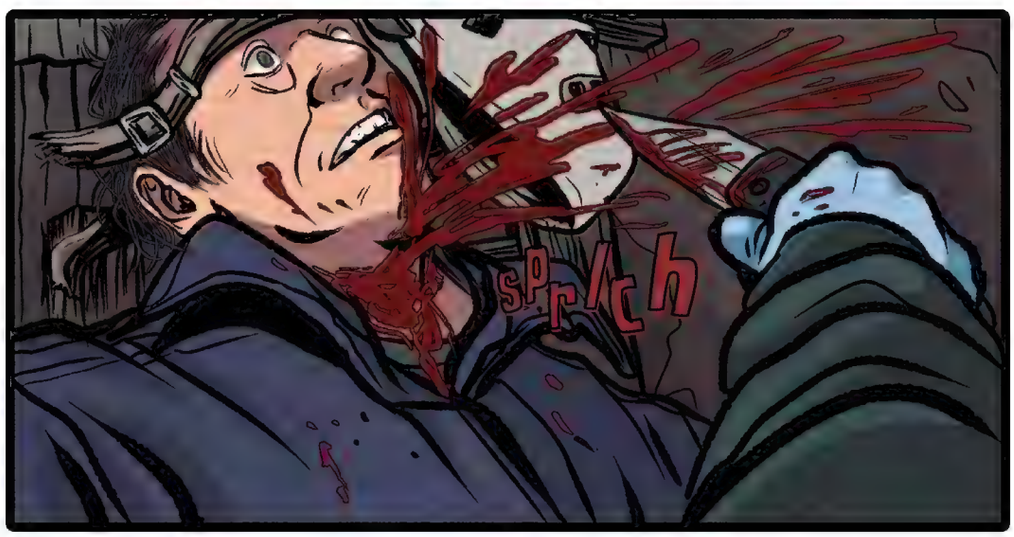
KRSSSH

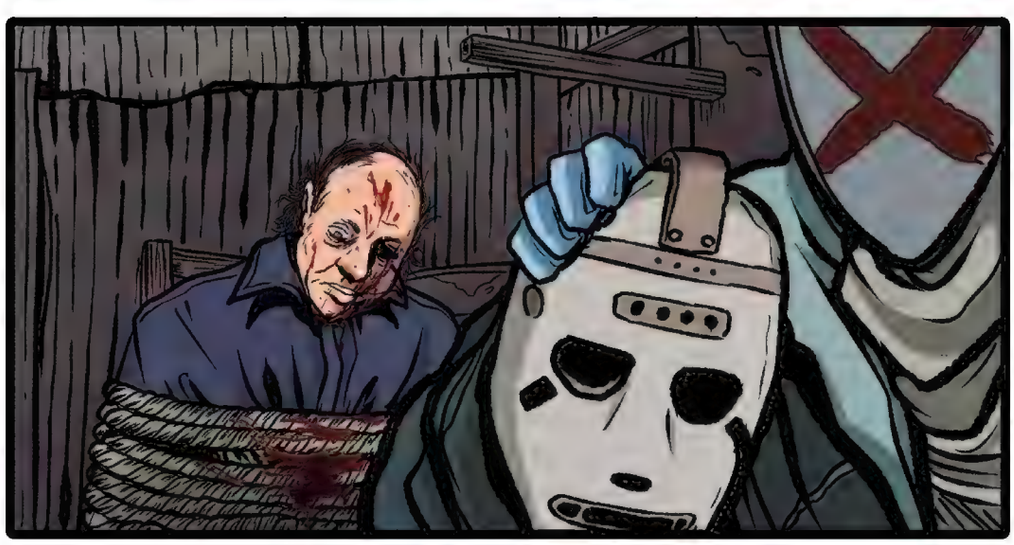
IT!


Sprlt

OUUUUUT!

Sjiiiiice


sprtch



/Killer
Time's up.
/Killer
Resistance ends in death.
BZZT
/Killer
On to the next.
BZZT

SlashManiac:
Oh shit! They coming for Bitters the Clown now?!
vdasjko42069:
/Killer really ain't CLOWNING around ;)
1 Reply
TheRealSteve: stfu
Xx_bittersminion_xX:
Fake
Ryan78567:
What did I just watch? Is this some kind of snuff film??

DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS KILLER?
EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT THIS.

IT'S SO INNOVATIVE. THEY'RE PRACTICALLY REINVENTING HOW TO KILL PEOPLE.

WE SHOULD BE TRYING TO DO MORE THINGS LIKE THIS! I WISH I HAD THOUGHT OF IT.

THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT I'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT.

DON'T YOU THINK THIS IS EXCITING?
THEY'RE ACTUALLY CHANGING THE GAME. THEY'RE DOING WHAT WE'RE SETTING OUT TO DO.

SCRTCH

SHOW OFF

SHOW-OFF?
ISN'T THAT THE POINT?!

WASN'T THE LAVA LAMP A BIT SHOWY?
YOU CAN'T TELL ME THERE WAS A PRACTICAL REASON FOR POURING THAT GOO DOWN THE GUY'S THROAT.

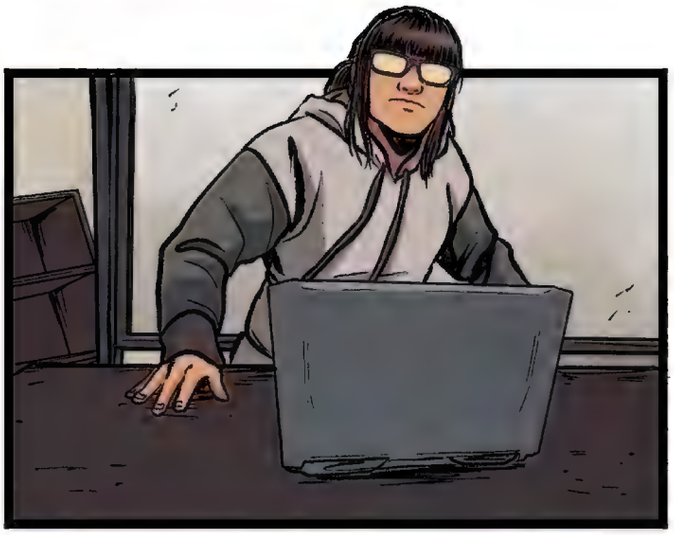
JUST 4 FUN

EXACTLY! WHAT'S MORE FUN THAN SOME EXTRA PIZAZZ? WE HAVE TO BUILD YOUR REPUTATION BACK UP. WE NEED SOMETHING FRESH!

SOMETHING WITH SOME PRODUCTION VALUE.
WHACK

WE'RE LITERALLY WATCHING THE OLD WAYS BE KILLED OFF BEFORE OUR EYES.
BAM
SCRTCH
DONE TALKING

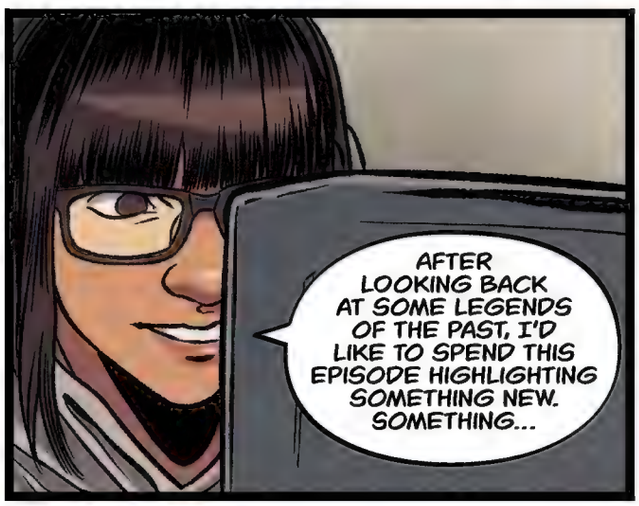
SLAM
You'll see my side eventually.



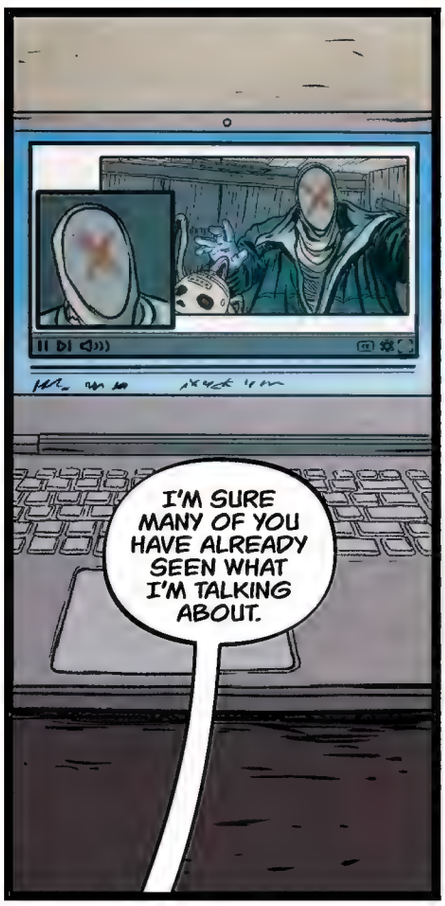
Oh shit! They coming for Bitters the Clown now?!
(Killer really ain't CLOWNING around ;)
Fake
What did I just watch? Is this some kind of snuff film??

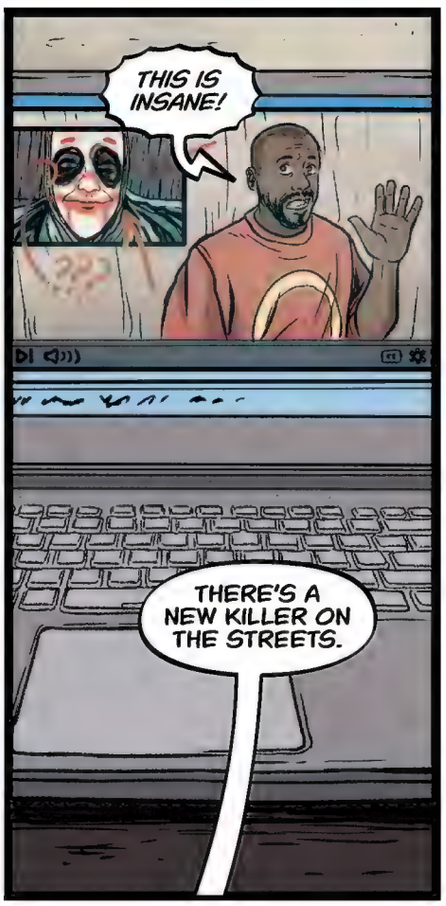
tap tap
tap tap

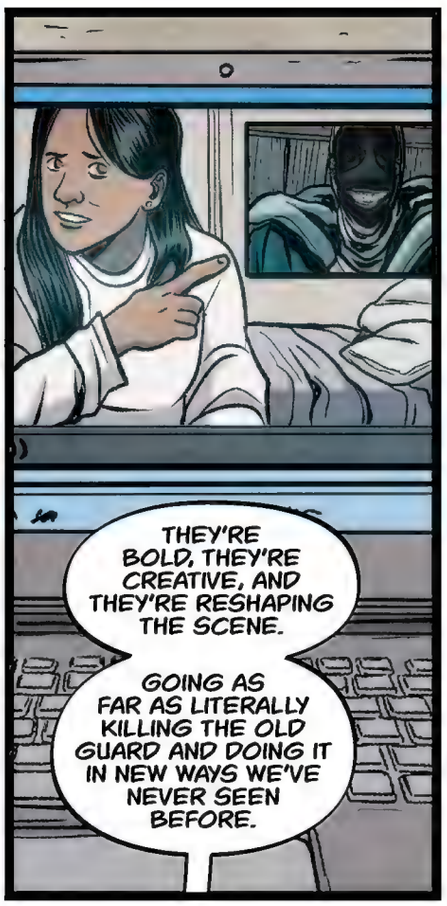
WELCOME BACK TO ANOTHER EPISODE OF KNIFE LIFE WITH YOUR HOST, RILEY!


AFTER LOOKING BACK AT SOME LEGENDS OF THE PAST, I'D LIKE TO SPEND THIS EPISODE HIGHLIGHTING SOMETHING NEW. SOMETHING...

...FRESH.


I'M SURE MANY OF YOU HAVE ALREADY SEEN WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.


THIS IS INSANE!
THERE'S A NEW KILLER ON THE STREETS.


THEY'RE BOLD, THEY'RE CREATIVE, AND THEY'RE RESHAPING THE SCENE.
GOING AS FAR AS LITERALLY KILLING THE OLD GUARD AND DOING IT IN NEW WAYS WE'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

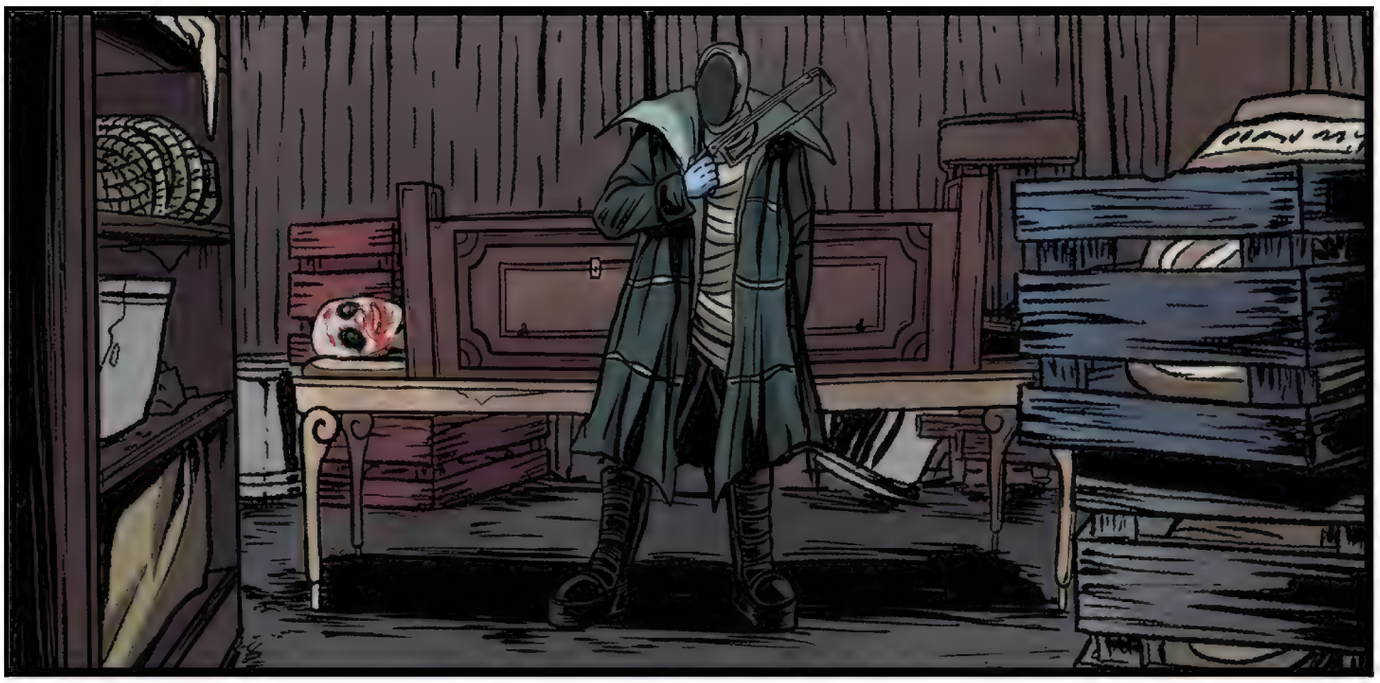
"THE LANDSCAPE HAS NEEDED AN UPDATE FOR YEARS.

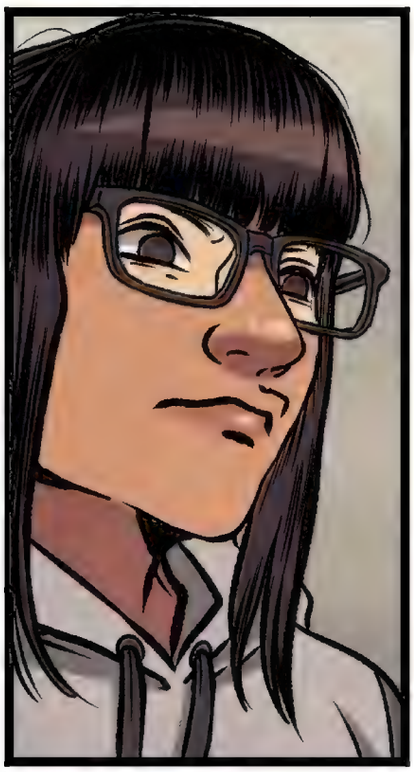
clak
clak
clak

LOADING...
"YOU ALL KNOW WHO I'M TALKING ABOUT AT THIS POINT..."

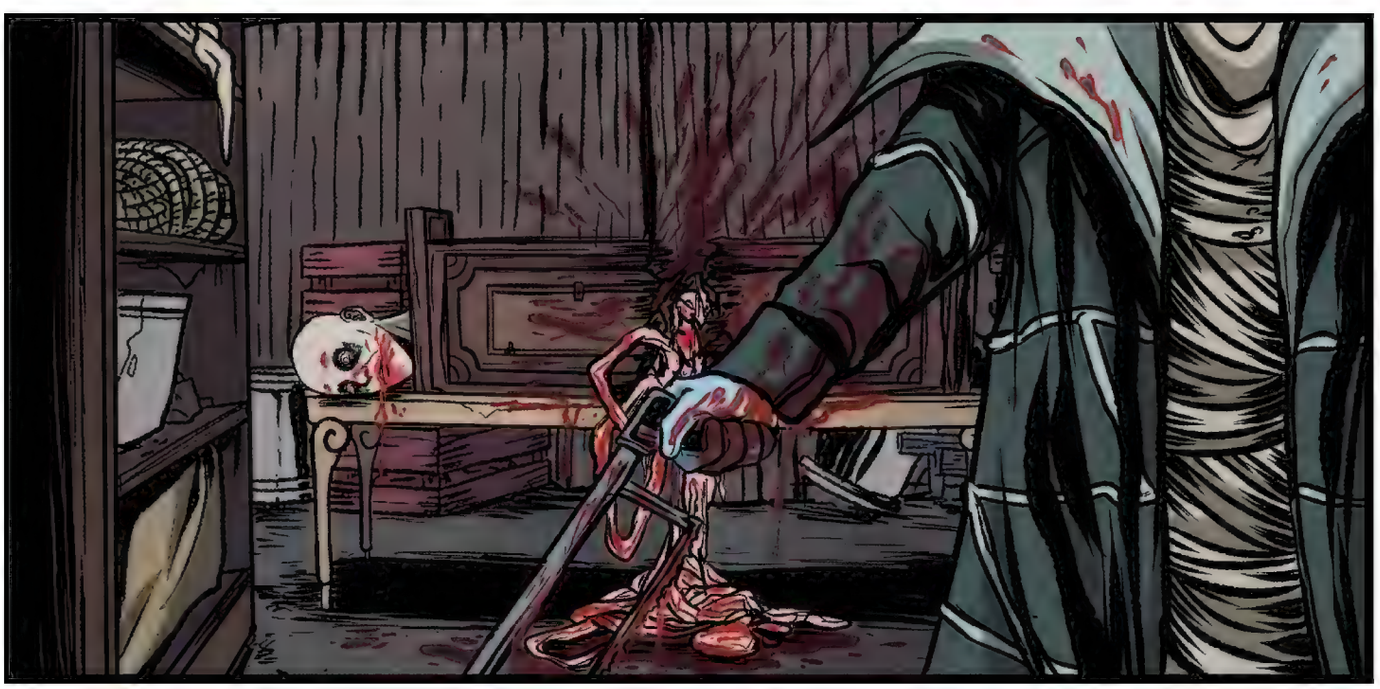
PUBLISH

PING
NEW VIDEO!
...IT'S Killer.





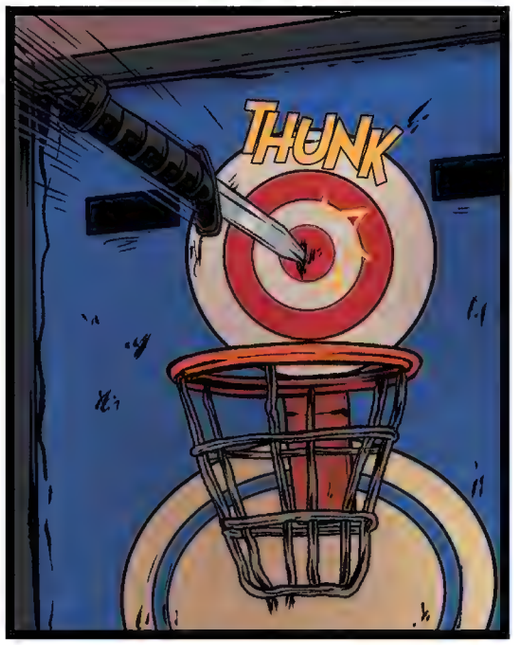
ARRGGGHHHHHH!
SPLASH!

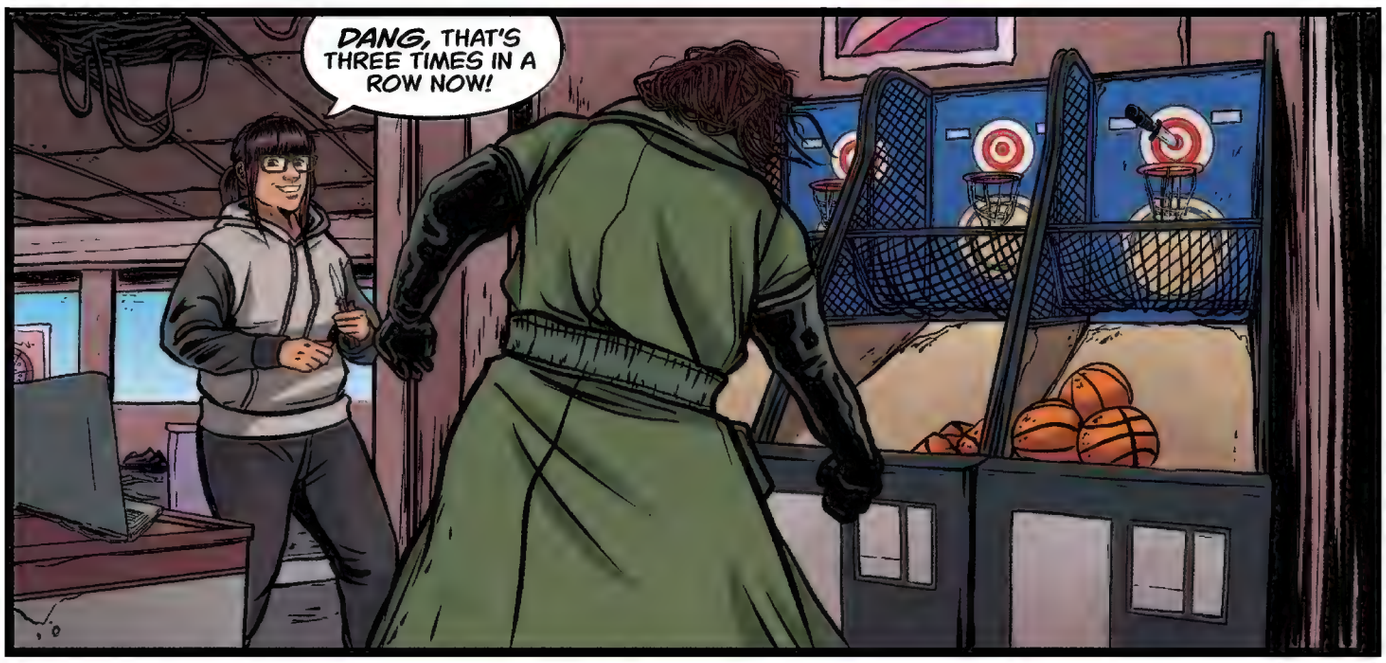


HVK!
WHERE DID YOU GO?
THERE YOU ARE.
shhkiiing
I HAVE TO SHOW YOU THIS.
/Killer OFFED ANOTHER KNOWN SLASHER.
IF WE DON'T GO OUT AND START MAKING SOME NOISE, YOUR LEGACY WILL END UP LIKE THIS.
DON'T YOU CARE?
WHAM

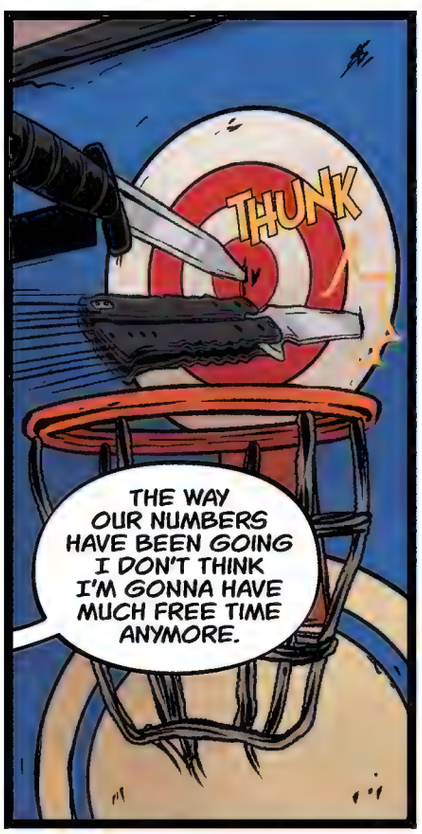
OH, HELL YEAH! LET'S GET TO WORK.

KRSSSH
AHHHHH!
THUMP
BOOM

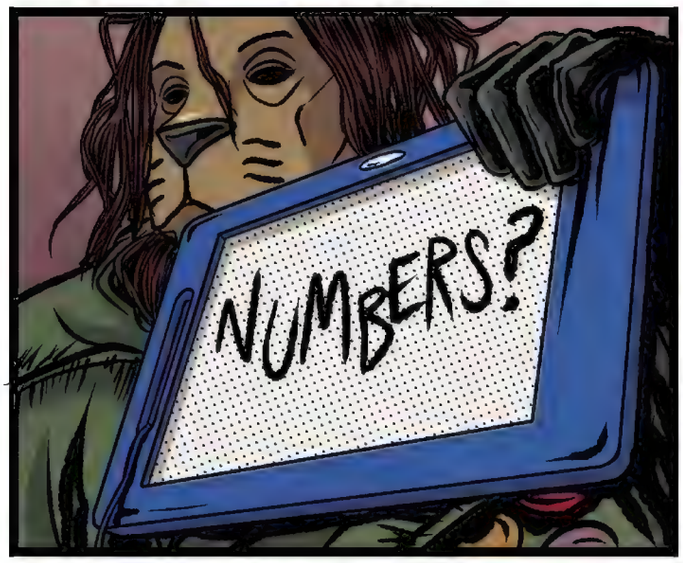

THUNK


DANG, THAT'S THREE TIMES IN A ROW NOW!

WE'VE BEEN SO BUSY I HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO PRACTICE.


THUNK
THE WAY OUR NUMBERS HAVE BEEN GOING I DON'T THINK I'M GONNA HAVE MUCH FREE TIME ANYMORE.

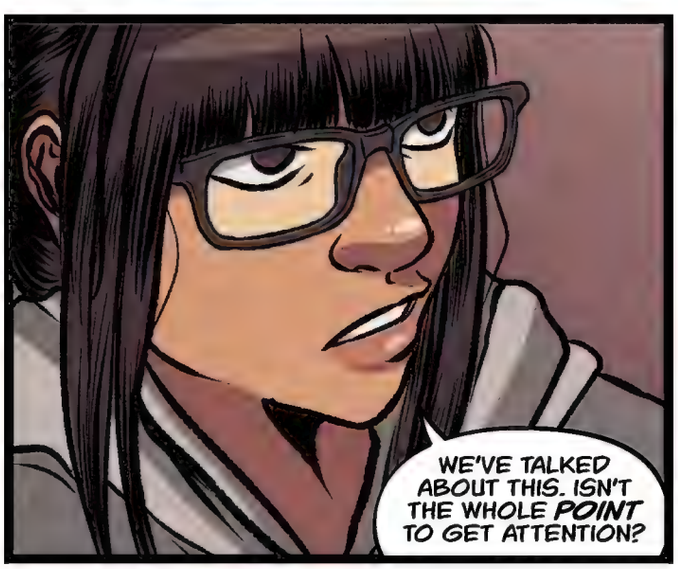
WHAT'S WRONG? WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?

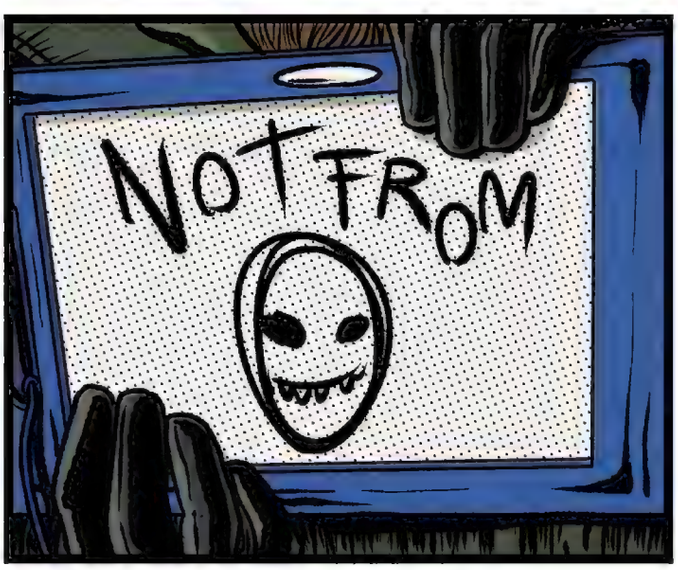

NUMBERS?

SO, I'VE BEEN FILMING AND UPLOADING OUR RECENT WORK.

I KNOW YOU DON'T APPROVE, BUT IT'S *WORKING.*
EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT WHAT A LEGEND YOU ARE AGAIN.

DONT WANT ATTENTION


WE'VE TALKED ABOUT THIS. ISN'T THE WHOLE *POINT* TO GET ATTENTION?

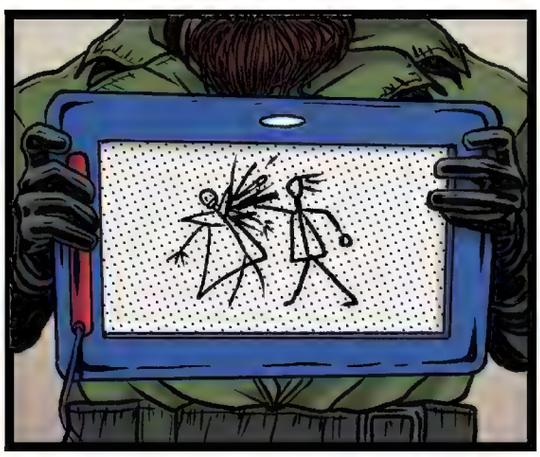

NOT FROM

WHAT WE'RE DOING HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH /Killer.
AS LONG AS WE'RE INNOVATING, THEY WON'T TARGET YOU.
NOTHING WRONG W OLD WAYS
YOU'RE SO STUCK IN THE PAST. THAT'S WHAT'S GOING TO GET YOU--
PING
WELL, SHIT.
THAT'S YOUR MASK.

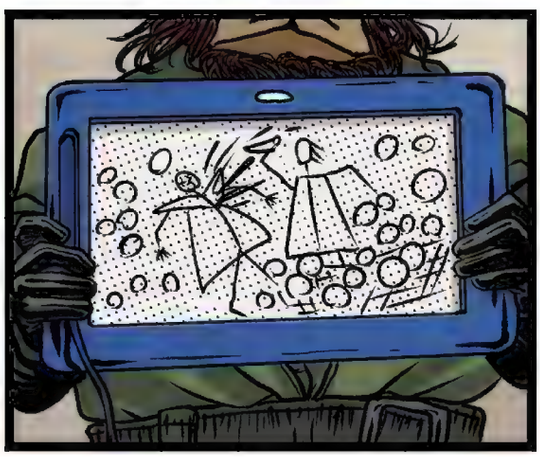
CHAPTER
FIVE

SO, OBVIOUSLY, THIS IS NOT TO SCALE.
KITCHEN
ARCADE
OFFICE

THE ONLY WAY WE'RE GOING TO BEAT /Killer COMING FOR YOU, IS IF WE GO FOR THEM FIRST.
WE'LL LURE THEM OUT AND BRING THEM BACK HERE FOR OUR OWN FUN AND GAMES.
WE NEED TRAPS, WHAT DO YOU GOT?



THAT'S NOT A TRAP, THAT'S JUST YOU STABBING AGAIN.



OKAY, THE BALL PIT IS WARMER, BUT THAT'S *STILL* JUST STABBING.

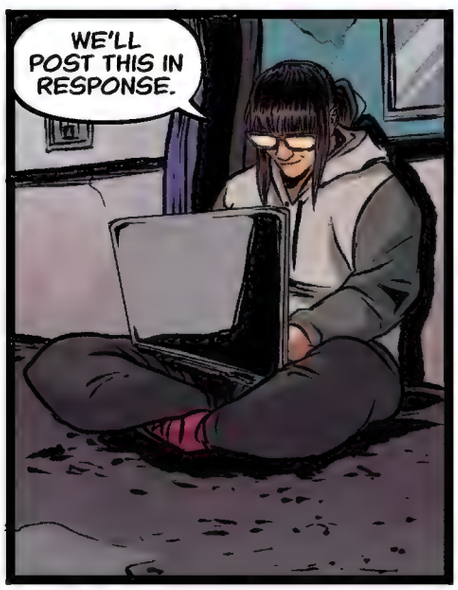
I THINK OUR BEST PLAN WILL BE TO START HERE IN THE KITCHEN.
KITCHEN
ARCADE
LET'S GET TO WORK.
YOU KNOW, I'M PRETTY IMPRESSED WITH HOW MUCH YOU'VE BEEN WILLING TO CHANGE HOW YOU DO THINGS.
I KNOW THINGS WERE DIFFERENT BACK WHEN YOU STARTED.
YOUR STYLE REALLY WORKED ALL THOSE YEARS AGO. I MEAN, THERE'S A REASON WHY YOU'RE A LEGEND.
SOME OF THE KILLS YOU PULLED OFF OVER THE YEARS HAD A HUGE IMPACT.

YOU'VE HAD SO MANY ICONIC KILLS, BUT I THINK ONE OF MY FAVORITES HAS TO BE THE TIME YOU STABBED SOMEONE IN THE BACK OF THE HEAD WHILE THEY WERE RAIDING THE FRIDGE.

CLASSIC HOPTON VALLEY KILLER MOVE!

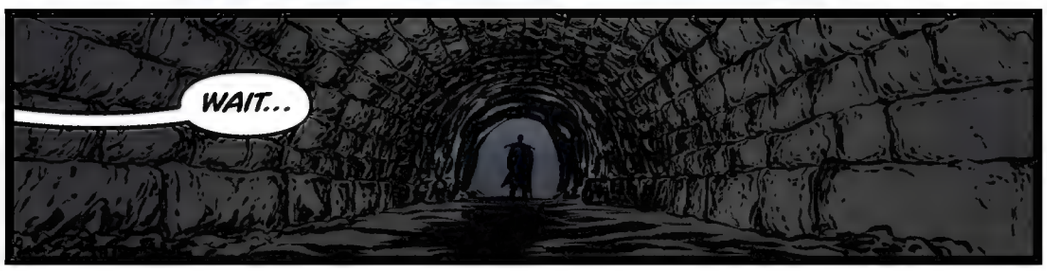
AFTER THIS, WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING I DOUBT YOU'VE DONE MUCH IN YOUR LIFE.

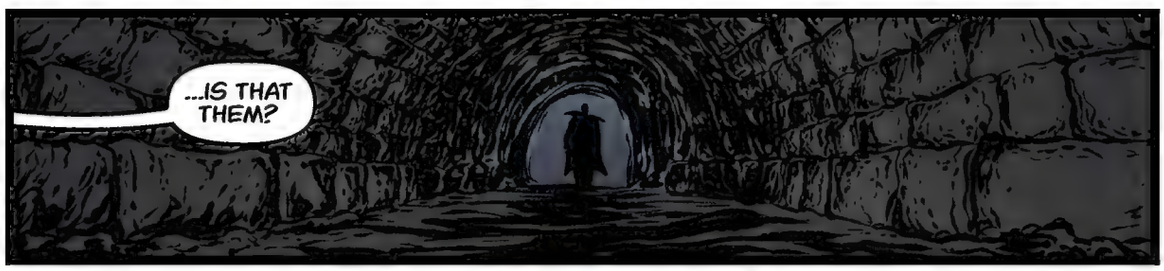
CHALLENGE ACCEPTED
9:30
WILLIAMSON CREEK BRIDGE
SAY CHEESE AND DIE!
Clk

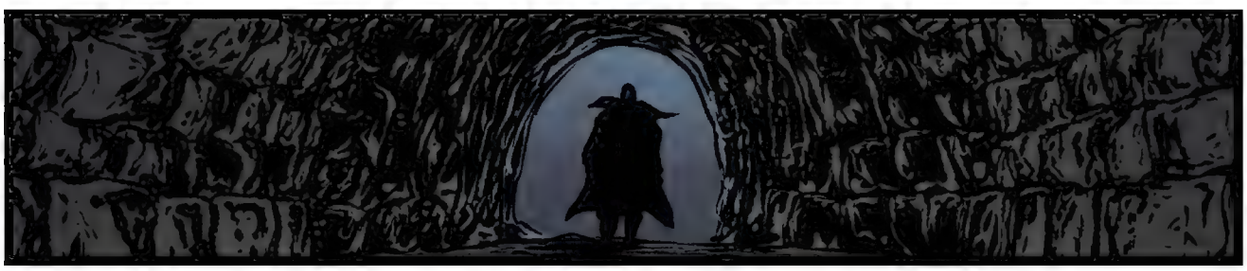

WE'LL POST THIS IN RESPONSE.

ASSUMING THEY SHOW, WE'LL BE READY AND WAITING.

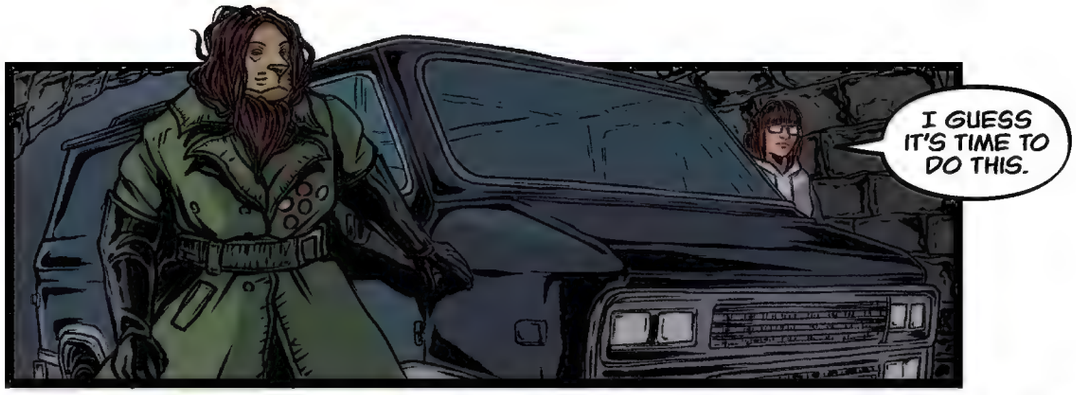
THIS FEELS LIKE WE'VE BEEN WAITING *FOREVER.* WHERE THE HELL ARE THEY?


WAIT...


...IS THAT THEM?



FINALLY!


I GUESS IT'S TIME TO DO THIS.

I HOPE I CAN PULL THIS OFF.

WAIT! THAT'S NOT THE PLAN!

AH!
SLAM

PLEASE! STOP!
DON'T HURT ME!

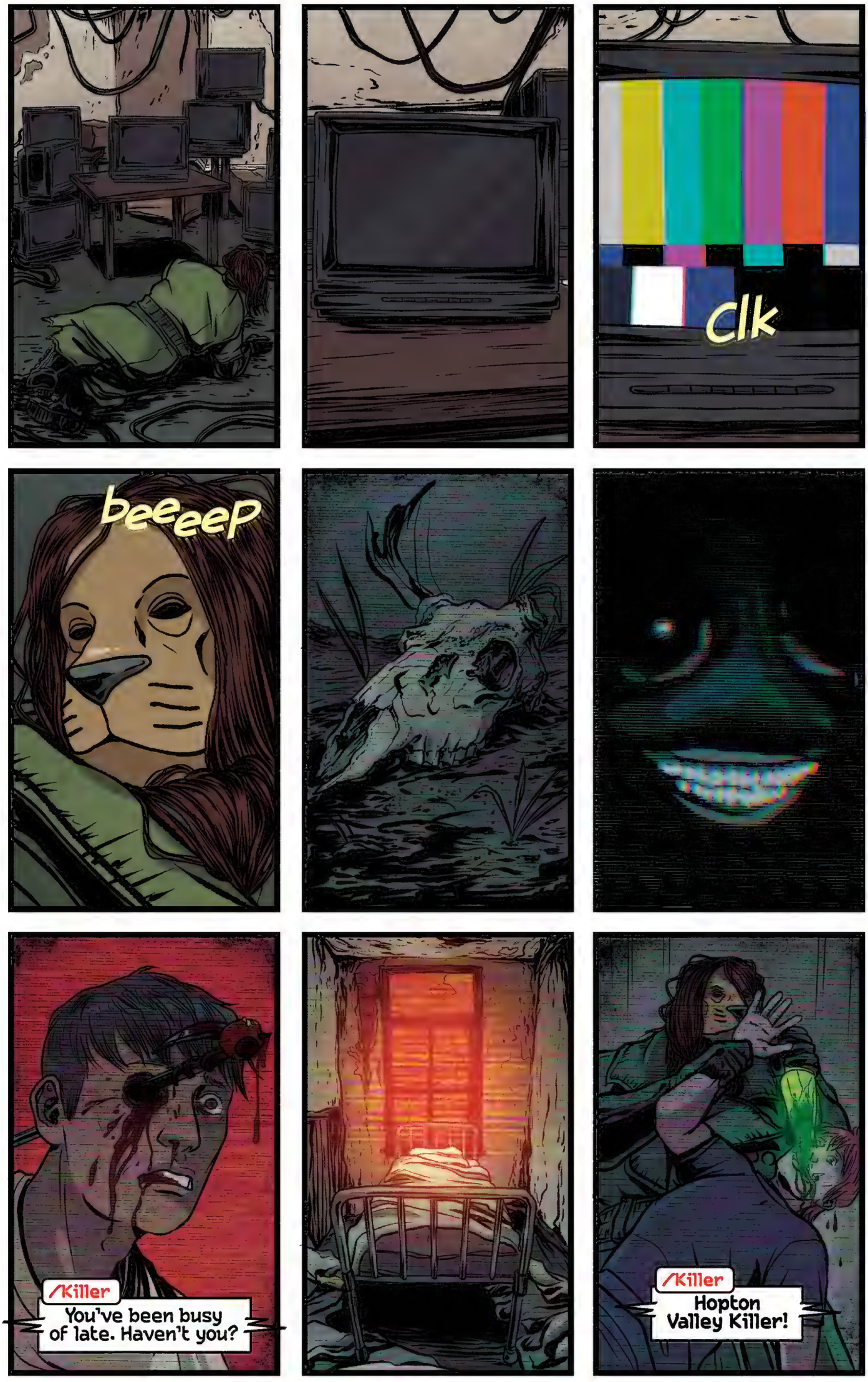
I'M NOT WHO YOU THINK I AM!

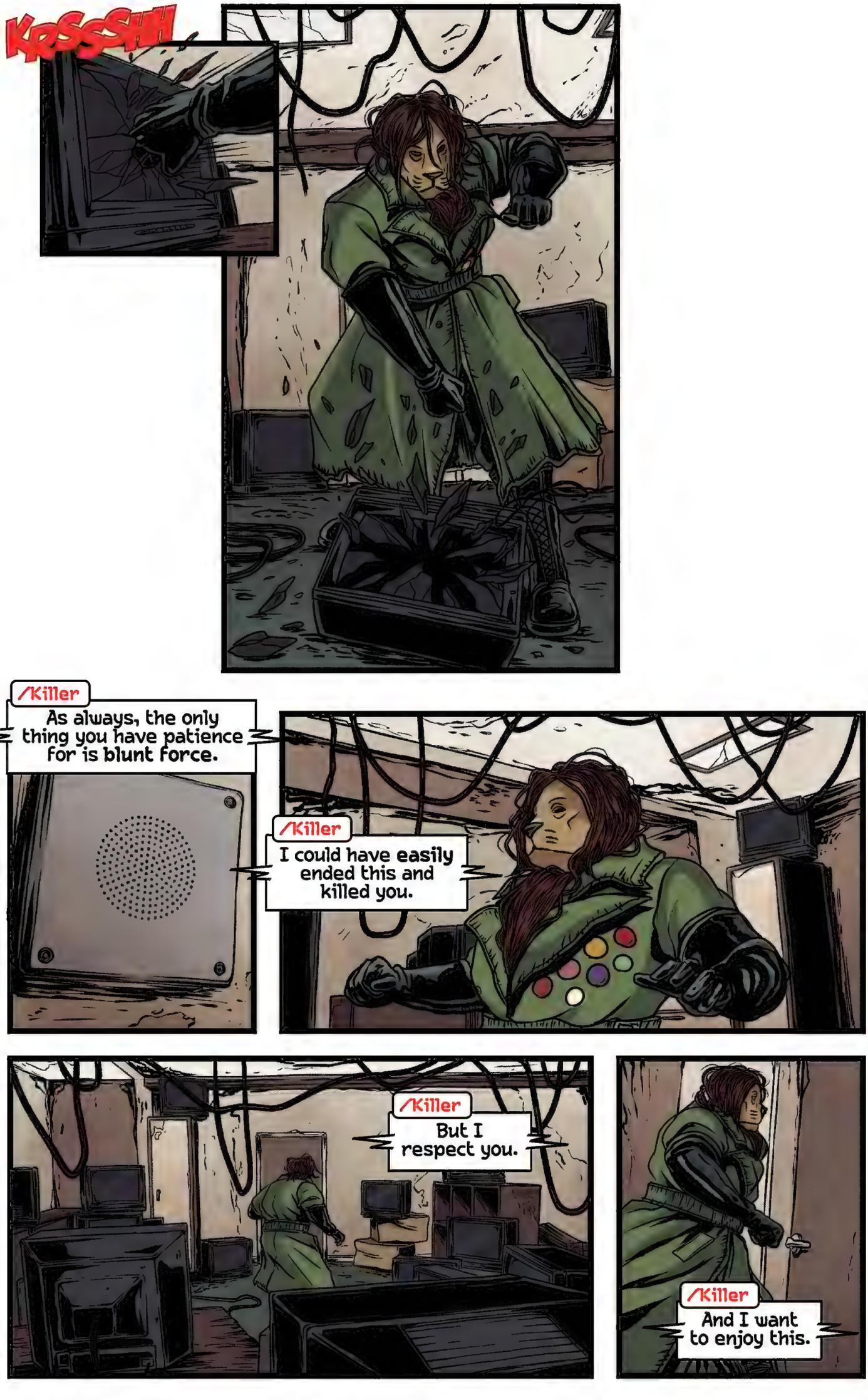
I'M JUST AN ACTOR! I WAS HIRED TO STAND HERE AND WEAR THIS MASK. I DIDN'T SIGN UP FOR THIS!

I'VE GOT STUDENT LOANS TO PAY OFF, BUT $500 ISN'T ENOUGH--
HEY NOW!

NO, PLEASE!
HVK!

THUD


clk
beeeep
/Killer
You've been busy of late. Haven't you?
/Killer
Hopton Valley Killer!

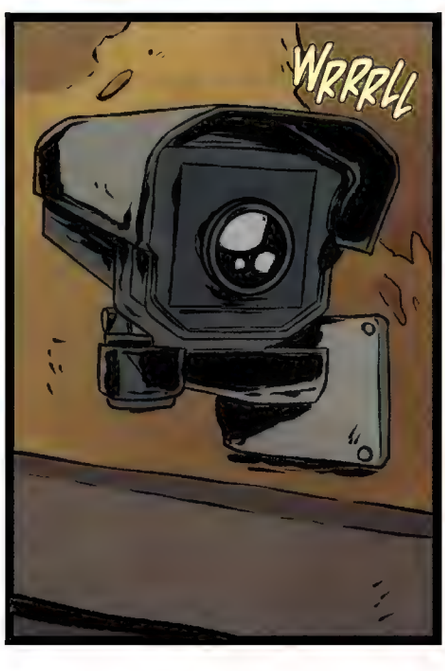

KRSSHH
/Killer
As always, the only thing you have patience for is blunt force.
/Killer
I could have easily ended this and killed you.
/Killer
But I respect you.
/Killer
And I want to enjoy this.

WHAM
Killer
How did you find yourself in this predicament, I wonder?
Killer
If only you hadn't continued to go into every situation with guns blazing.
SNNAP

Killer
Looking for your apprentice?

Killer
She can't help you now.

Killer
As much as she tried.


WRRRLL

Beep

Killer
I liked some of the traps you came up with for me...

Killer
...But I decided to make some updates.
WHOOOSH

SSSSS
RIIIIP
FWOOOSH
KRCK

50% OFF!

/Killer
Looking for me?

/Killer
I'm not as weak and unsuspecting as your usual prey.

/Killer
And I know you'd love to just end this, and stab me already...

/Killer
...but we're playing by my rules now.

AT LONG LAST...
YOUR PATIENCE IS--
HRRRK

SQUEEZE
COUGH!
HACKK!

KRRRSH

GRRRPPP
SLAM

SURPRISED?

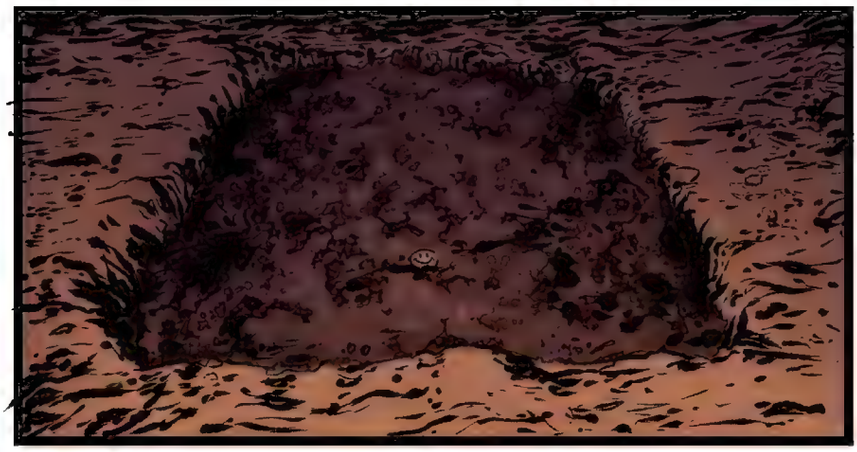
IT'S ALWAYS SO HARD TO TELL THROUGH YOUR MASK.

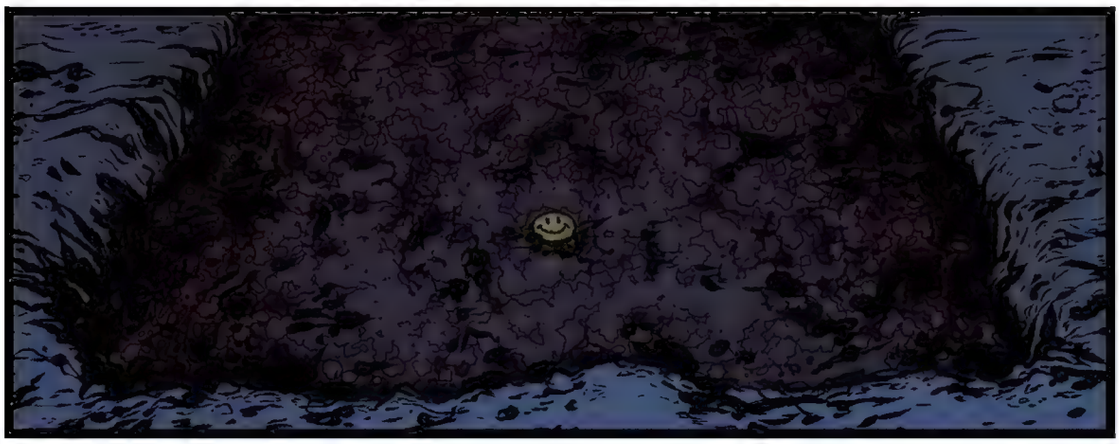
YOU KNOW, I'M NOT DOING THIS OUT OF HATE.

HELL...
...THIS ISN'T EVEN ABOUT REVENGE FOR MY PARENTS.
IF YOU DIDN'T DO IT, I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE.
YOU INSPIRED ME.
YOU REALLY ARE ONE OF THE GREATS.
YOUR LEGACY DESERVES TO BE CARRIED ON.
BUT YOUR TIME IS UP.

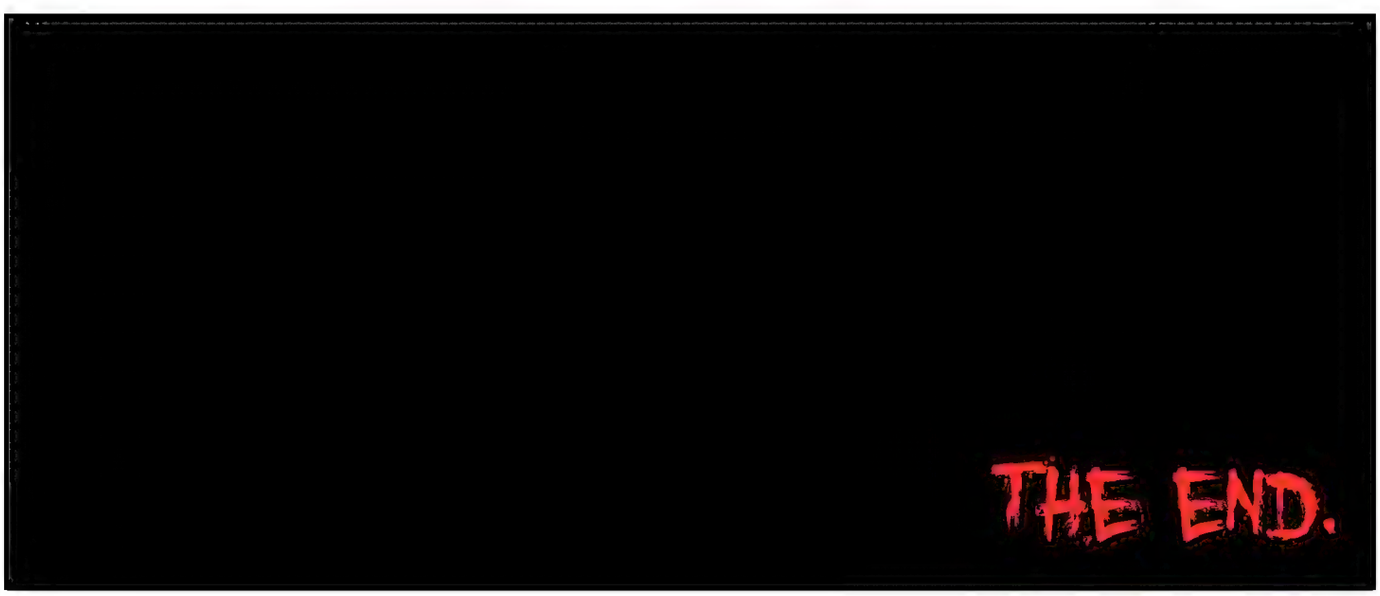
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY MENTOR.
BUT IT'S TIME FOR NEW BLOOD.

"WELCOME BACK TO ANOTHER EPISODE OF KNIFE LIFE WITH RILEY!
"IT'S BEEN A WHILE. I'VE HAD SOME THINGS TO TAKE CARE OF.
"BUT I'M READY TO MOVE FORWARD.
"I'VE GOT A LOT IN STORE FOR YOU ALL."





"THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET BLOODY."


THE END.

VARIANT
COVERS &
CHARACTER
DESIGNS

COVER B • THE SLASHER'S APPRENTICE™ #1 • ARTIST: TREVOR HENDERSON

GEEK GEEK NERD NERD RETAIL VARIANT COVER • THE SLASHER'S APPRENTICE™ #1 • ARTIST: ETHAN RAYNER.

TN COMIC COLLECTOR RETAIL VARIANT COVER • THE SLASHER'S APPRENTICE™ #1 • ARTIST: ANTHONY OJEDA AND STEVE CANON
TONY OJEDA '25
CAÑON

SANTANA COLLECTIBLES RETAIL VARIANT COVER • THE SLASHER'S APPRENTICE™ #1 • ARTIST: GEORGE DEEP

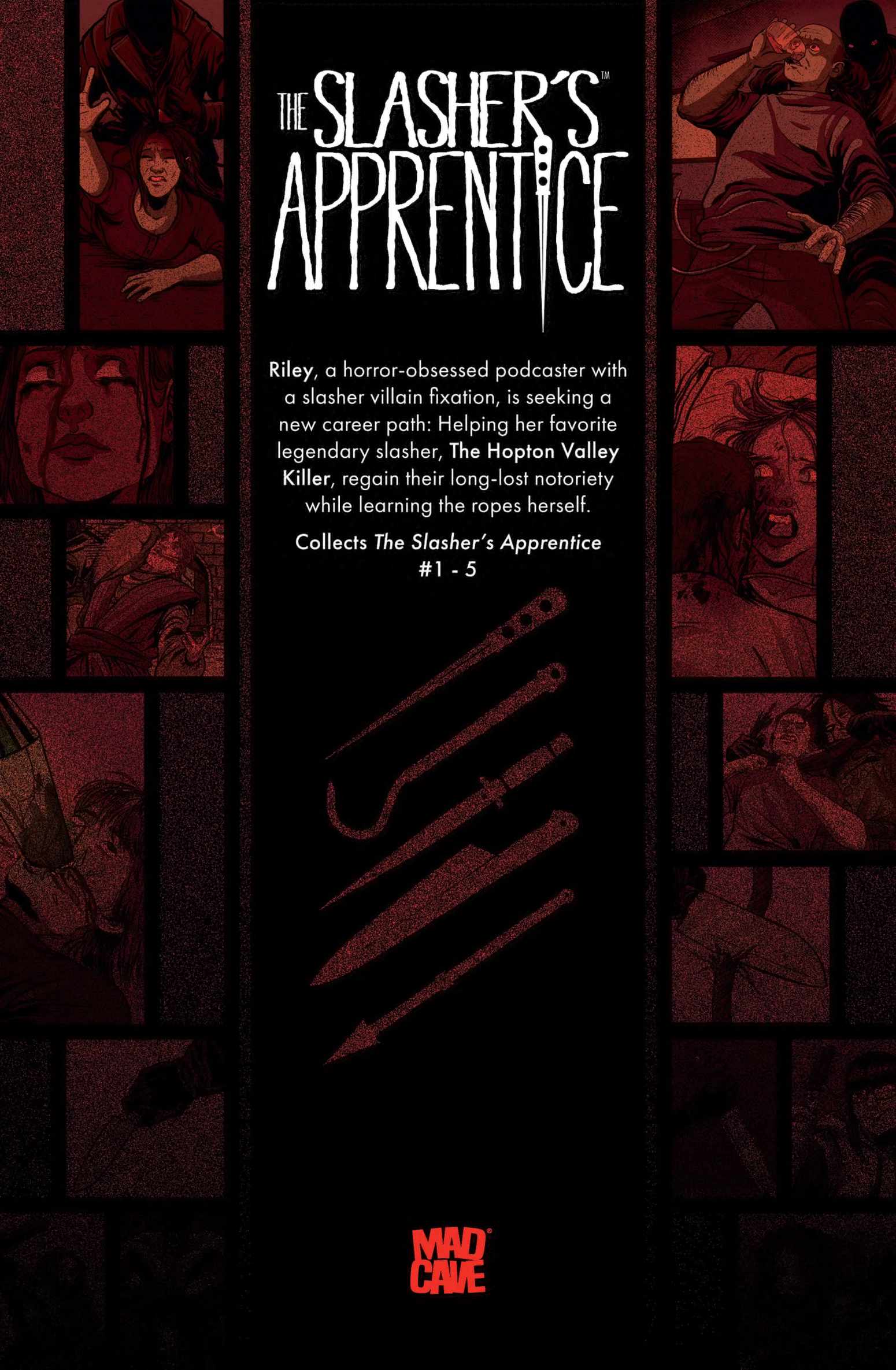
RILEY

WEARS BAGGY CLOTHING WHEN NOT IN COSTUME

TAKES INSPIRATION FROM INTERNET URBAN LEGENDS

STILL TRYING TO FIND HER SIGNATURE WEAPON

HOPTON VALLEY KILLER
FAVORS KNIVES
HAS BUTTONS FROM VICTIMS THROUGH THE YEARS
WEARS VINTAGE HALLOWEEN LION MASK
HAS NEVER WASHED THEIR COAT



Riley, a horror-obsessed podcaster with a slasher villain fixation, is seeking a new career path: Helping her favorite legendary slasher, **The Hopton Valley Killer**, regain their long-lost notoriety while learning the ropes herself.

Collects *The Slasher's Apprentice* #1 - 5

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